Racism

pages six and seven

Musicversity

page fifteen

Hypothesizing for 57 years.

MARTLET

Thursday, March 17, 2005 | The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca | Volume 57, Issue 26

"Imagination is more important than knowledge."

—Albert Einstein

see page nine

NORMAN ED BASKERVILLE IMAGE

CORRECTION

The Martlet incorrecly reported that two independent candidates in the UVSS elections were elected as directors at large.

In fact, elected to the 11 director at large positions on the UVSS board of directors were seven candidates from the Coalition of Independent Students and four candidates from Putting Students First.

We apologize for any confusion and are saving our pennies in order to splurge on a calculator.

Mercer eats it

Rick Mercer, CBC comedian and host of "Talking to Americans" and "Monday Report," plays jester to a court of the Order of Pi, eating a vanilla cream pie in the name of entertainment.

According to the Order, Mercer was charged with "filming 'Monday Report' on Tuesday."

NIC HUME PHOTO

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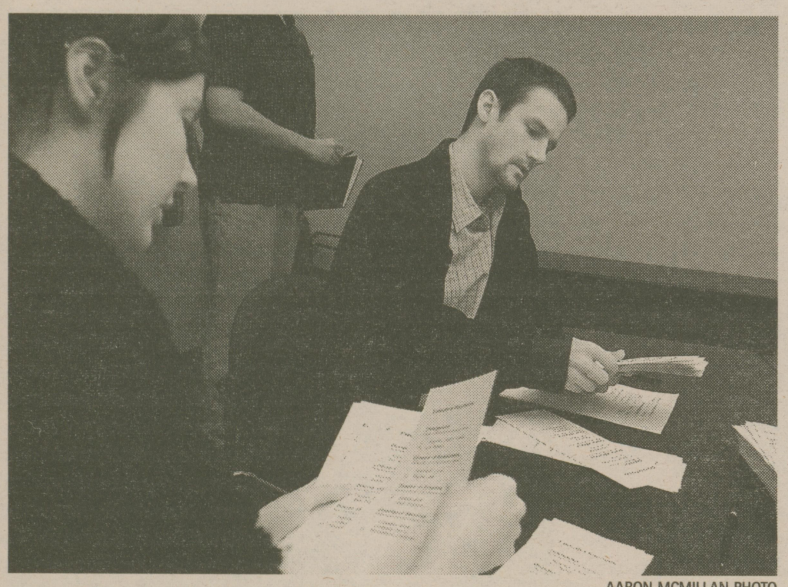
Beames takes chair by four votes



AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

Ballot counters go over the election results a second time.

by Megan Stewart

The margin of votes decreased from 10 to four, but Penny-Lane Beames remains the incoming UVic Students' Society (UVSS) chairperson.

Beames held onto the position after the March 11 re-count, defeating her opponent, Agata Lis, 1,155 to 1,150. Three co-op ballots were counted, bringing the totals to 1,156 for Beames and 1,152 for Lis.

A total of 17 co-op ballots were mailed out, but the rest aren't expected to come in.

The electoral office went through the ballots of each polling station until they counted the same total of votes at least twice. Multiple counts were required of the ballots from Clearihue, the McPherson Library and the SUB.

Penny-Lane Beames: 1,156
Agata Lis: 1,152

During the repeated counts of the ballots cast at those three buildings, the person doing the count was watched by a second counter and a scrutineer of each candidate.

Each candidate had two scrutineers present at the re-count.

Chief Electoral Officer Kathy Borneman said, "It was very slow moving with at least three sets of eyes watching the count happen. We took special means to make sure everyone was happy with the process."

However, Lis had asked for a second re-count on the SUB ballots because no count reached the same total. The chief electoral officer denied the request. saying the discrepancy would not have changed the outcome.

The election results will be presented to the UVSS board of directors for ratification on April 5.

Prior to the re-count Lis, who ran with the Coalition of Independent Students, said her opponent's slate, Putting Students First (PSF), is losing the confidence of students. As voter turnout increases, Agata says the PSF mandate is continually going down.

"What we've seen for the past two years is that voter turnout is increasing at UVic, but the PSF mandate is decreasing. This means that PSF is continually losing support on this campus and more students are choosing an alternative."

Voter turnout was up 17 per cent from last year. In 2004, 2,211 undergrads cast a vote in the UVSS elections, while this year 2,576 undergrads voted.

But will students vote again?

by Megan Stewart

UVSS chairperson candidate Agata Lis isn't calling for a second election—she'll leave that up to voters.

With 1,148 votes in her favour before last Friday's re-count, Lis trailed her opponent, Penny-Lane Beames, by 10 ballots. After the March 11 re-count, that margin is down to four votes. Because of a number of complaints, however, the re-count has not muffled the suspicion that a second election would bring about an alternate result.

Lis, the current UVSS director of finance, has a list of complaints for the electoral office, the governing body that oversees campaigning, polling and ballot counting. Her concerns deal with a number of election shortfalls, which include, among other things, a shortage of ballots at various voting stations.

"We're talking 10 votes," emphasized Lis before the re-count. Her slate, the Coalition of Independent Students (CIS) was elected to seven out of eleven seats on the Board of Directors, while being denied any of the four executive positions. Lis questions if the final tally accurately reflects the choice of the student body in the first place.

There was a shortage of ballots on the afternoon of March 4 at the McPherson Library, the Student Union Building, the Engineering Lab Wing (ELW), and the MacLaurin and Clearihue buildings. Kathy Borneman, chief electoral officer, says students were directed to the nearest alternate polling booth but said, "It's impossible to guess how many students were turned away."

When it was clear there was going to be a shortage, the elections office began printing additional ballots and at the same time moved ballots from less-visited polls to busier ones. However, at certain times there were no ballots at five different voting stations, a fact Lis said might have been preventable in at least one case.

Borneman said the electoral office has yet to receive a complaint regarding the shortage of ballots.

Lis said the higher turnout at various polling stations could have been predicted, especially at the library and the ELW. She expected that more engineers would be coming out to vote than in previous years because her slate, CIS was campaigning heavily in and around the ELW, an area she considered a "key campaign zone."

With two engineers—Mike Waters and Bill Gallop—running for director at large, Lis said it was "a factor that should have been taken into consideration" and more ballots could have been allocated to that building.

In 2004, a total of 97 people voted at the ELW and this year's rise to 140 voters is higher than the average increase in voter turnout.

Deputy Elections Officer Jon Bradbury said the polling station in the ELW was only short ballots for several minutes. But Lis said she still wonders if the number of voters would have increased had there been ballots available. Would those students have voted for Lis or other members of the CIS slate? "You never know," she said.

Beames said she had never thought of the possibility of a second election until approached by *the Martlet*, but said she can't consider herself the elected chairperson until the results are ratified by the UVSS. Should enough of the student body voice concern over the lack of ballots, say 300 to 400 people, Beames said she would be in favour of upholding the ideal democratic process and "would be hard pressed to say 'no'" to a second election.

In consideration of the 2004 turnout of 2,208 on-campus voters, 2,300 ballots were printed this year. Borneman said the elections office was not expecting a significantly higher turnout this year. The total number of on-campus voters this year increased by 17 per cent to 2,573.

Borneman said she would call a second election only "if there was an overwhelming voice of students who were unhappy with the decision." The chief electoral officer decides if the election results are fair and accurate and presents the results to the UVSS who ratify the election, making it official.

In the event of a complaint, the electoral office would consider what the student felt went wrong and why he or she were requesting a second vote. The electoral office would not need to know which candidate the student supported. Any ruling of the chief electoral officer may be appealed to the electoral committee within 48 hours, and any decision of the committee may be appealed to the UVSS within the same time limit.

Borneman applauded the efforts of both the electoral office and candidates for garnering attention and enlisting support. "We tried to increase voter turnout, but it goes to show that the candidates were recruiting votes too," she said.

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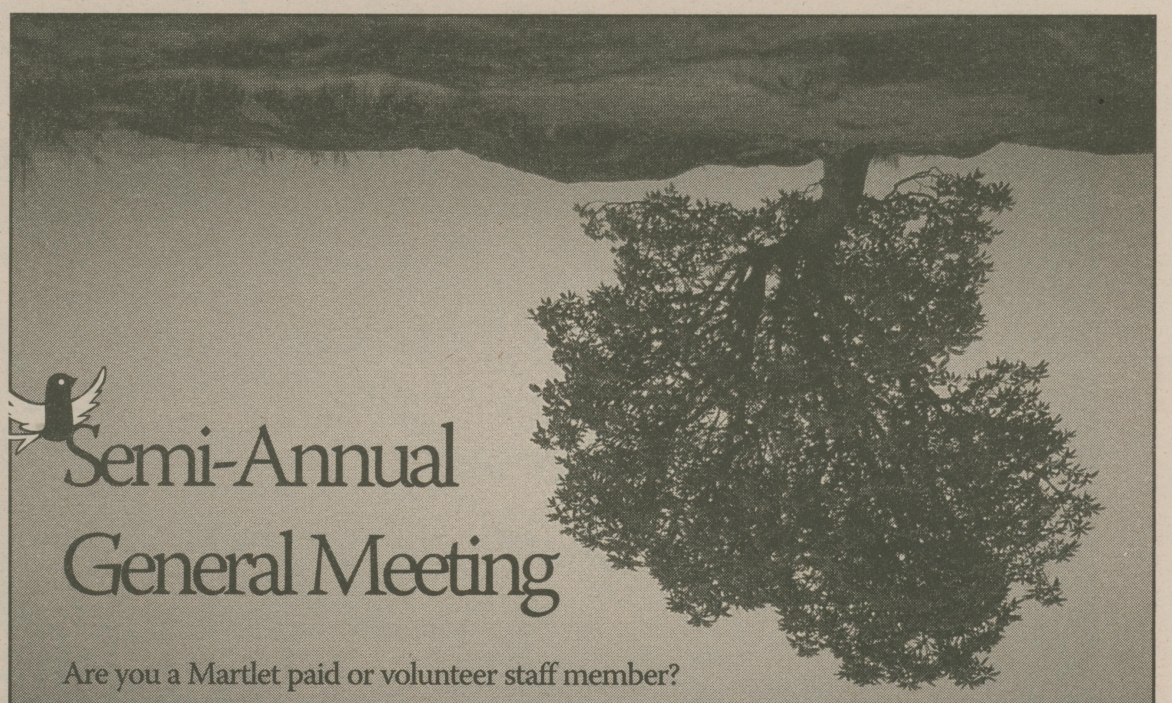

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NDP MP proposes changes to bankruptcy laws

by Bryna Hallam

Students struggling with student loan debt may soon have another option: bankruptcy.

A bill by the NDP's Alexa McDonough, MP for Halifax and the party's post-secondary education critic, aims to reduce the time before a student can claim bankruptcy.

"This is a measure that is desperately needed to provide some relief to students who are in dire straits," said McDonough.

Currently, student loans cannot be included in a bankruptcy claim until an individual has been out of school for 10 years. If passed, McDonough's bill would decrease that time to two years.

"No other group of Canadians faces such discrimination under Canada's bankruptcy laws," said McDonough. "Here we are discriminating against the very people who we expect to take us through the 21st century. It's ludicrous and it's mean-spirited."

The proposed change would ensure that students and non-students are treated equally under bankruptcy laws.

"It is so important for the discrimination that now exists in our insolvency legislation to end as it relates to students," she said. "Others who become bankrupt . . . are eligible to apply for bankruptcy protection after two years. This is out-and-out discrimination against a category of Canadians that needs to be fought in the courts."

The exclusion of student loan debt from bankruptcy claims was first introduced in 1997, when the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (BIA) was amended to deny student loan borrowers the ability to declare bankruptcy until two years after they stopped being students.

Less than a year later, the BIA was again amended, and the period was increased from two to 10 years.

The changes came in part as a response to rising numbers of defaults on student loans. In 1990–91, more than 5,600 borrowers holding $40.5 million in student loans declared bankruptcy. Those figures rose to more than 11,000 borrowers with more than $100 million in student loans in 1995–96.

Prior to the 1997 changes, most of the people who declared bankruptcy did so within seven years of leaving school. All told, $445 million in federal student loans were held by people who declared bankruptcy between 1990 and 1997.

But according to a senate committee report on the BIA, students who default on their loans "do so not because they do not want to pay their debt, but rather because their financial situation is such that they cannot pay." The report also points out that prior to the changes made in 1997, student loan debt was only erased if it was believed that the system was not being abused.

The senate report recommended changing the waiting period from 10 years to five.

Human Resources Development Canada, which administers student loans, was "afraid students would use the bankruptcy act to get out of paying," said Senator Richard Croft.

Kroft, chairperson of the BIA committee, told the *Capital News Online* in 2003 that he didn't think graduates would declare bankruptcy if they could help it. "I don't think they will. No one wants to go bankrupt."

Statistics Canada reports that 45 per cent of university students who graduated in 2000 had government student loans. The average debt load was $19,500, and 14 per cent of graduates owed more than $25,000. As of 2002, 24 per cent of graduates reported difficulties repaying their debt. In addition, student debt increased 30 per cent between 1995 and 2000.

Since 1997, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) has been working to change the rules. The group has challenged the law under section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which reads in part that "[e]very individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination." They are arguing that the law discriminates on the basis of age.

"It is our belief that these provisions discriminate against students and violate the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms," Todd Burke, legal counsel for the case, said in April 2004. "Virtually all other citizens overwhelmed by debt have the right to a hearing. Those with student debt are denied that right."

Ian Boyko, then national chairperson of the CFS, agreed. "Paul Martin's Liberal government imposed this callous law on students in the so-called education budget in 1998," he said in 2004.

"It was important to offer a voice to all of those discriminated against by this legislation. Today was a vital day in the struggle for students' rights."

A decision on the challenge is expected by April of this year.

PROVIDED PHOTO

"No other group of Canadians faces such discrimination under Canada's bankruptcy laws," says NDP MP Alexa McDonough.

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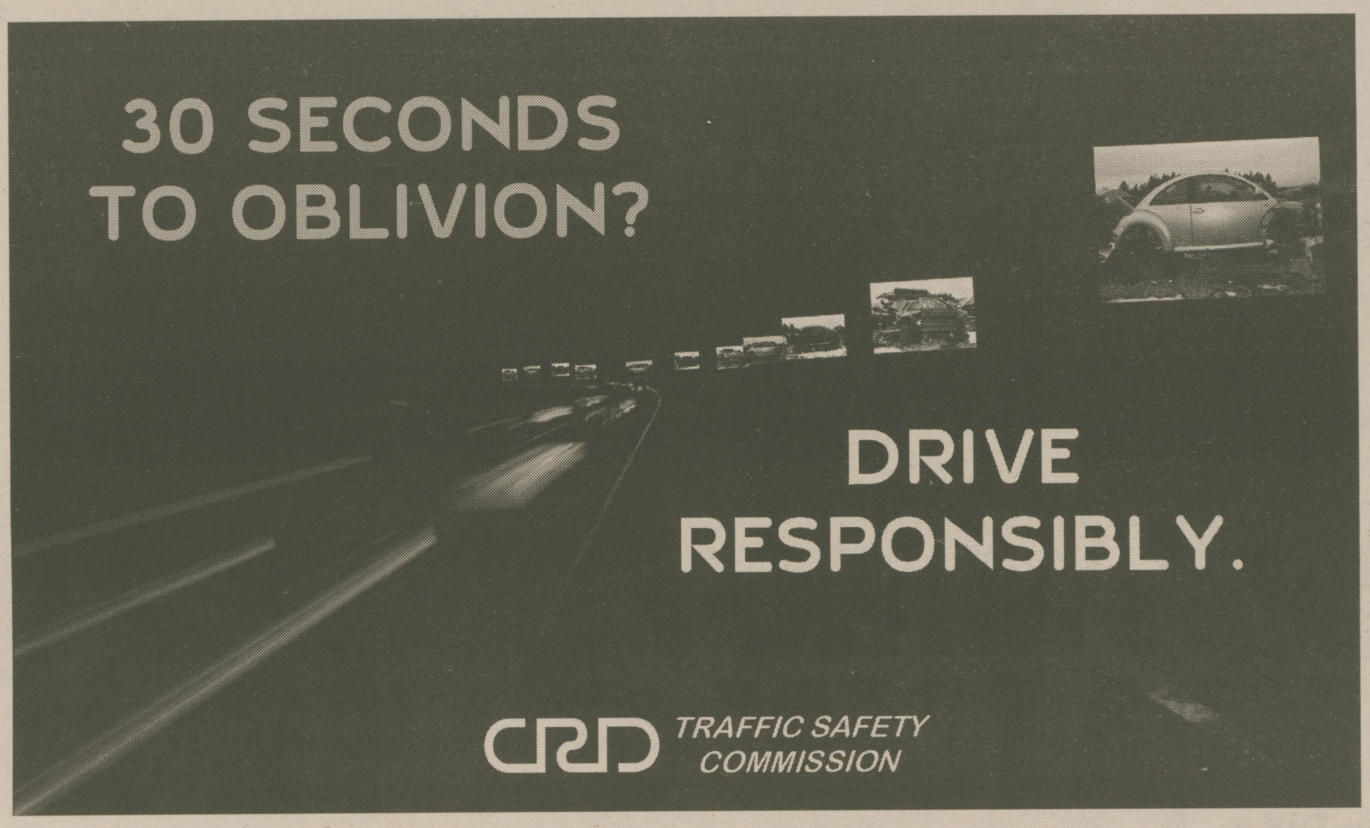

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Sexual assault on campus

by Megan Stewart

Campus Security Services is looking for a male suspect after a female reported being sexually assaulted on campus.

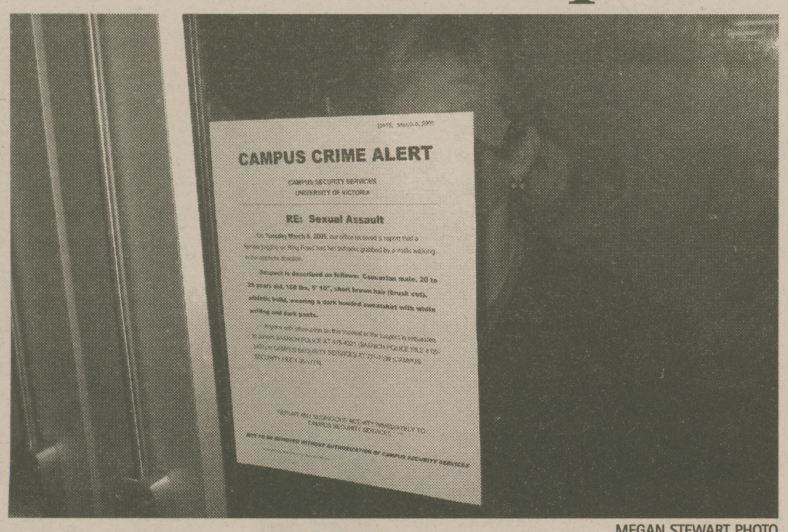
On March 8 at 7:25 p.m., a 20-year-old woman was jogging counter-clockwise on Ring Road in front of the residence buildings when a man walking in the opposite direction purposely grabbed her buttocks. The woman is from the neighbourhood but is apparently not a student at UVic.

The victim verbally confronted the male suspect and may have used profane language. She immediately reported the assault to CSS.

Const. John Price of the Saanich Police said the woman did all the right things. He considers her response "completely appropriate."

"This is an assault for all intents and purposes," he said. "We get at these guys when women empower themselves and report an assault—when [women] purposefully and forcefully announce what this person just did."

The legal definition of sexual assault is quite broad, explained Lola Freeman, co-coordinator of the Anti-Violence Project, a student resource that provides support and information to women and men who have experienced violence, as well as to the people supporting them.



MEGAN STEWART PHOTO

The female survivor's quick reaction may deter the male suspect from assaulting another person, say Saanich police.

"[Survivors] expect there is a certain level of violence that needs to be involved," Freeman said, making it clear that a weapon does not have to be involved and a victim does not necessarily have to be raped for it to be considered an assault. "When this person reached out and touched her body without consent, it was sexual assault."

Price said sexual perpetrators tend to expect their victim to both feel embarrassment and shock at being assaulted and to question the nature of the "fleeting contact." Because they count on the silence of their victim, Price considers sexual predators cowardly.

"The more noise [a victim] makes, the more these people will run and hide," said Price, adding it would be "a bloody shame if this woman didn't report the assault" because then the perpetrator might feel free of blame and encouraged to assault again.

Freeman applauded the woman for immediately contacting CSS and said her quick action was "fantastic."

"I am very proud to have a woman like this on campus," she said, noting that students, faculty and staff at the university are now aware of the assault. "There are a lot of eyes on campus, and this sort of behaviour won't be tolerated."

CSS provides a number of resources for student including the Safewalk service and emergency direct-dial phones. Safewalk is available for anyone on campus who, for whatever reason, wishes to be escorted from one building to another or to a vehicle within the boundaries of campus, including the Ian Stewart gym.

There are 11 direct-dial phones on campus. They are identified by a red and white security label and are numbered from one to 11. The phones require no money and offer a direct line to CSS and Safewalk.

Description of the suspect

The suspect is described as a 20- to 25-year-old Caucasian male with a brush cut. He weighs roughly 160 pounds, stands at five feet 10 inches and has an athletic build. He was wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt and dark pants.

Anyone with information can reach Campus Security Services at 721-7599.

Play safe

The Saanich police advise women to take the following precautions when running:

1. Run in well-lit areas and avoid running after dark.
2. Refrain from wearing a Walkman.
3. Run with a friend when possible.

Const. John Price recommends that women be conscious of the area they are running in. "All your senses should be attuned to your surroundings. You should be running heads up and paying attention."

NEWS BRIEF

Candidates disqualified

Two candidates for director at large seats on the UVSS board of directors, Michael Gismondi and Mike Waters, have been disqualified for violating election rules.

According to a count by electoral officers on March 3, Waters had posted 78 signs, three more than is allowed. Waters alleges their count included 17 posters that they tore down earlier in the day for being too close to voting booths.

Waters is expected to appeal the decision.

On March 14, the UVSS board ruled on Gismondi's appeal to gain re-instatement. According to board member Erik Haensel, Gismondi was disqualified for distributing election pamphlets in residence, which violates election policy 18.e.i.

The board voted 10 to four to uphold the election committee's decision to disqualify Gismondi, as "Candidates are responsible for ALL of their campaign materials" and must be "reasonably aware" of what is distributed, according to electoral policy 17.c.

In the 2004 elections, UVSS chairperson Joanna Groves ran with the Putting Students First slate. During that campaign, posters attacking her opponent, Dallas Henault, were placed around campus. Henault complained the posters violated election rules, but they remained posted because the chief electoral officer ruled there was no way of knowing if Groves was "reasonably aware" of the posters.

—D.K.

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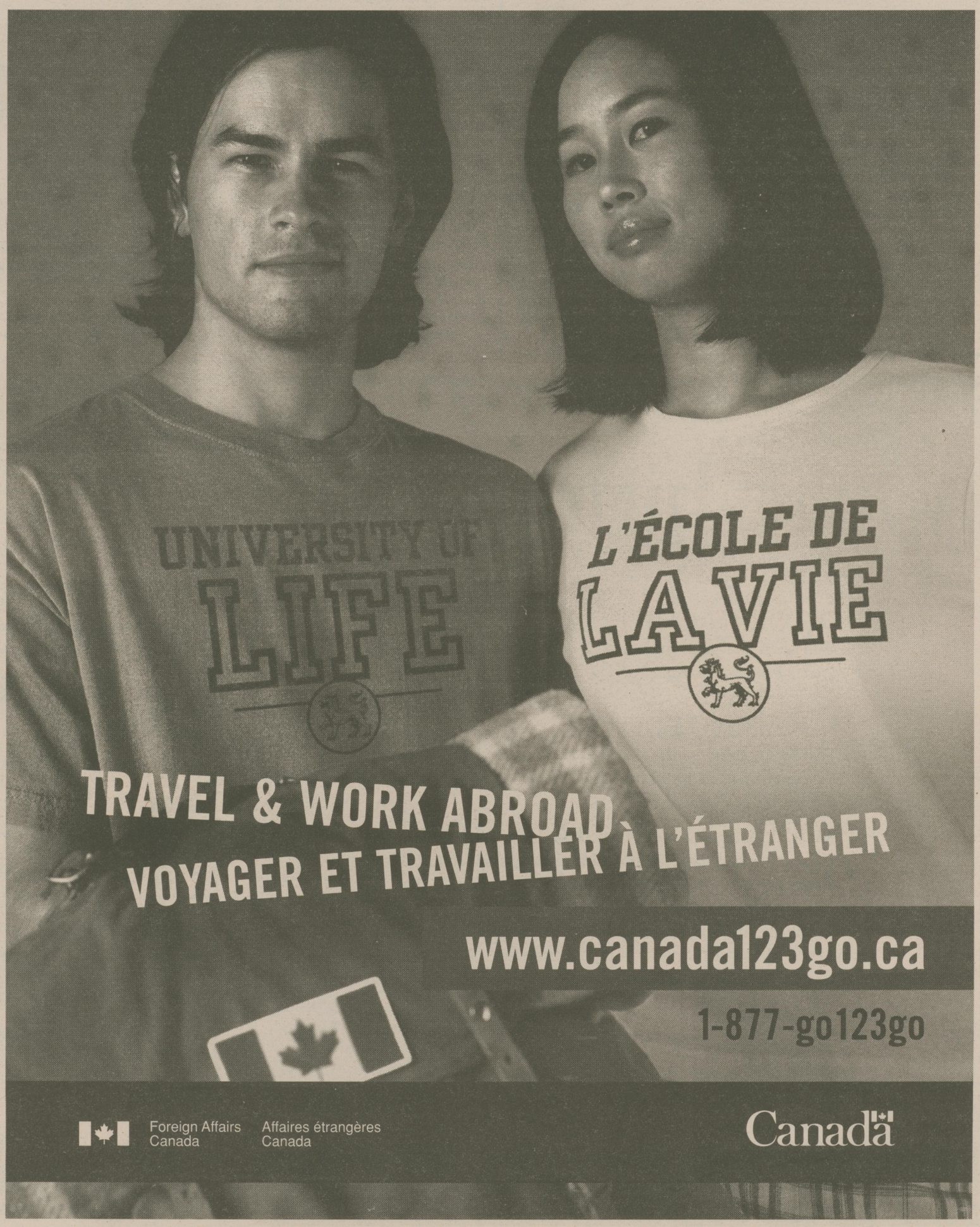

Not equally different, but differently equal

Local group celebrates March 21, the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

by Bryna Hallam

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination comes around only once every year.

That, says Hari Alluri, isn't enough.

Alluri is the spokesperson for the March 21 (M21) Coalition, a collection of Victoria groups and individuals "working to build foundations for ongoing anti-racist work."

"The ongoing prevalence of racism in Victoria requires that we build strong foundations to fight that racism," said Alluri. "The coalition is building for ongoing action against racism."

To that end, the M21 Coalition has organized a week-long series of events intended to educate and inspire action to end racism. The events, which run until March 21, range from art shows and film screenings to a panel discussion on racism in Victoria.

"Contrary to what a lot of people think," said Alluri, "racism is not a thing of the past."

He points to his own experiences, saying that he wasn't actively involved in anti-racism work while he lived in Vancouver. "The reason I am now is because I moved to Victoria," he said, "and it was like, 'oh shit.' There is racism all around."

Alluri said the week's events are designed to celebrate and highlight the anti-racism work that is going on. He also hopes that it will help to build community and form an ongoing group that is willing and able to respond to crises.

"Racism is not a monster that lives out in the hills and comes down to scare people," he said. "It is embedded in our everyday practices."

People come to anti-racism work from different perspectives and experiences, said Alluri, something he thinks is important to recognize.

Mehmoona Moosa-Mitha, a social work instructor at UVic, and Annahita Lessany, a member of the Students of Colour Collective and the M21 Coalition, agree. "We are not equally different," said Moosa-Mitha. "We want to be differently equal."

"Working with each other against racism and coming together across differences are not separate issues," added Lessany.

Alluri says those differences are at the heart of the M21 Coalition, and he believes that they will end up being a positive thing. "If you have differences at the centre," he said, "and if people can enter through their differences, it will be more comfortable for them."

He is aware that some people might question the need for a week, or even a day, dedicated to eliminating racism. He recalls overhearing someone question why there is a Black History Month and not a White History Month. An acquaintance replied that there is one and it lasts the rest of the year.

The questions, Alluri believes, stem from that person seeing both Black History Month and March 21 as a threat. "There are people who will think that this week, that naming racism, that saying something is racism, can be considered a threat," he said. "If people think that, they should come out [to the events]. If people have questions, this a forum for them to enter into."

And that, says Alluri, is the goal of the events: to get people to ask questions and to start thinking differently about the issues.

"Racism as a practice is not something that is just going to go away," he said. "We have to make every day March 21."

Visit http://www.m21coalition.ca for more information.

NIC HUME PHOTO

Kemi Craig discusses the work of local filmmakers to raise awareness about the prevalence of racism in Victoria.

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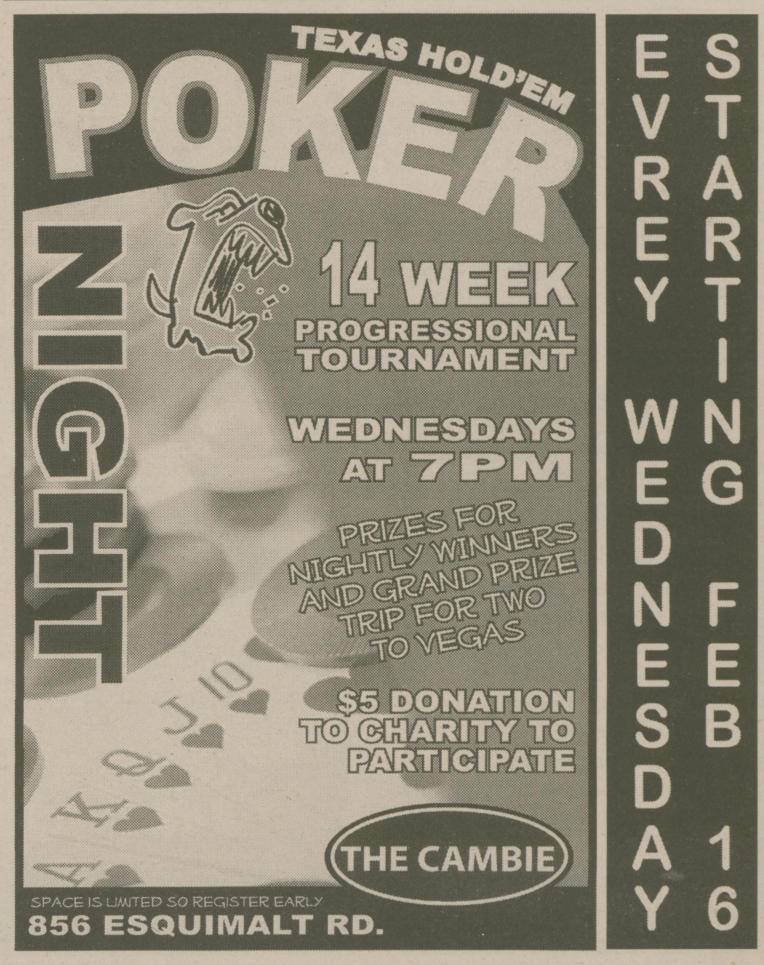

Finding an Anti-dote for racism

Group empowers girls to challenge racism in their everyday lives

by Melissa Nelson

Five teenage girls and four women sit in a small circle and talk about how they see themselves in their world.

Marisa, an articulate 14-year-old, begins, "Most of the time I just feel like people think I'm ugly. There's only a few black people in my school."

Understanding and accepting ourselves is often an uncomfortable stage of adolescence—and even adulthood. But when few images from popular culture and few of the people around us each day reflect how we look and who we are, establishing a positive self-image can be even more confusing.

Anti-dote is a new Victoria group working to empower racialized indigenous and minority girls to understand and challenge racism in their everyday lives. The group involves young women in a range of activities intended to help them learn new skills, gain confidence and cultivate their leadership abilities. These range from a weekly "stitch-and-bitch" knitting session and a monthly girls' club to workshops in theatre, storytelling and photography.

"Shoot This" is Anti-dote's most recent workshop offering. Over the course of three Sunday afternoons in February and March, the five girls who participated discussed racism and identity; they then took photos and wrote accompanying stories or poems that explored their experiences as visible minorities in Victoria. Their creative efforts are on display until March 18 at UVic's SUB upper lounge to mark the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21.

Through the process of creating stories and taking photos, the "Shoot This" workshops tackle challenging subject matter. In one session the girls are presented with scenarios of racism and are asked to act out both the racist behaviour and the response. Not surprisingly, everyone seems uncomfortable.

Afterwards, the facilitators ask the girls to discuss how they'd react in real life, how they'd like to react and what the best way to react might be. Each girl provides a real life example of a similar situation she's experienced. One has listened to classmates joke about First Nations. Another has recently heard a guy beside her on the bus saying "the N-word." Some of the girls say they've spoken up at such slurs. Others say they've stayed quiet, not sure what to do.

Annahita Lessany, 25, a third-year child and youth care student at UVic, is one of the workshop facilitators.

"We want them to be able to express themselves and feel more confident to address these issues," she said. "It's very real for these girls."

The creative element of the workshop is meant to allow the girls other avenues for expressing what's going on for them.

"The word for me is 'voice,'" said Naomi Horii, 26, workshop co-facilitator and art education student at UVic. "Whether it's art, writing, acting, whatever it is. We're trying to make them feel comfortable and that they do have a voice, and that it's valid."

Anti-dote grew out of a research project by UVic Women's Studies professor Jo-Anne Lee. She interviewed 70 girls and young women—whose ages ranged from 13 to mid-20s—about what it was like to grow up as a visible minority in Victoria. Though many of those interviewed were "well integrated and flourishing," they frequently felt isolated from others like themselves, marginalized by white classmates and poorly understood by teachers and school counsellors.

"Racialized girls need a group like Anti-dote," said Winnie Chow, the group's executive director. "Visible minorities make up only 11 per cent of Victoria's population. Many of the girls say they're facing racism in school and in the community. A lot of the time they don't have people to talk to about what they're going through."

As part of Lee's project, a conference for racialized girls called "It's About Us" was held in July 2002. Afterwards, participants overwhelmingly requested that the network formed there continue. Anti-dote received its first year of core funding from Status of Women Canada last spring.

"The group's name also means 'Auntie,'" says Chow. "The older women in the group are the 'Aunties.' They provide the girls with role models, and the opportunity to talk, to alleviate isolation. They help the girls look critically at the reality of living in Victoria, and to challenge it."

Lessany, Horii and Chow all agree that one of the main challenges Anti-dote faces is gaining recognition that its work is really necessary. Chow says that because visible minorities make up such a small percentage of Victoria's population, many of the city's schools and helping organizations don't place a high priority on meeting the specific needs of indigenous and minority girls and women.

In an era of funding cuts, when most organizations are struggling to maintain the services they already provide, this is even less likely. Chow says that while most people recognize and condemn drastic or violent acts of racism, there's less acknowledgement and understanding of systemic racism, such as the under-representation of visible minority staff within organizations working with youth.

Even so, Chow is encouraged. Anti-dote will be celebrating its one-year birthday in April and has several ideas in the works. The group is currently fundraising for five week-long summer programs, which will include documentary video-making, wilderness survival, theatre training, leadership certification and body wellness. These days the group is "all over the city in borrowed space," but Chow hopes they'll eventually have their own meeting place, where girls can hang out, work on skills and attend workshops.

What's most encouraging, though, said Chow, is the girls and seeing what they get from Anti-dote.

At the end of the final "Shoot This" workshop, Marisa carefully arranges her photos and writing into a collage, getting it ready for the art show. She says she's enjoyed the project, especially talking to others about her experiences with racism.

"It's kind of like a relief, you know," she says, "knowing you're not the only one that goes through this kind of stuff."

MELISSA NELSON PHOTO

The recent March 13 Anti-dote workshop, "Shoot This," encouraged young women to comment on their experiences as visible minorities through collage and the written word.

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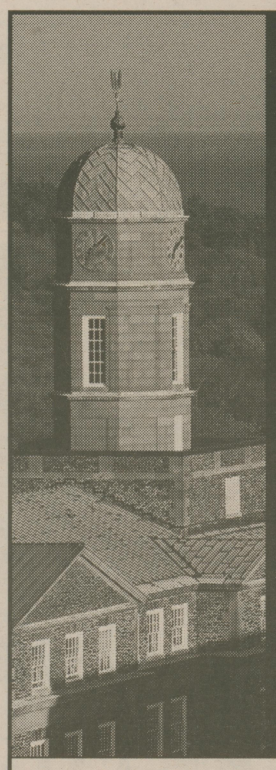

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TECHNOLOGY

Popularity of Firefox forces Internet Explorer 7's early release

by Ford Walker

Microsoft has stepped up the release date of its long-awaited Internet Explorer 7 to September, mostly due to the growing popularity of alternative web browsers like Mozilla's Firefox.

Originally planned for release with the new version of Windows, called "Longhorn," Internet Explorer 7 is being released one year ahead of schedule. While the past two versions of Internet Explorer have focused on security issues, version seven will add new functions such as a Google search bar and tabbed browsing.

Internet Explorer has maintained about 95 per cent of the browser market share since it was first included with Windows 98. Since Microsoft has a near monopoly on web browsing software, the developers have rarely been pressured to update software. It typically takes months for the company to fix viruses and bugs.

Firefox has improved on Microsoft's work and is rapidly gaining users. In December, *Wired* magazine estimated that Firefox had claimed four per cent of Internet users, which is the highest percentage a web browser besides Explorer has held since the downfall of the once-ubiquitous Netscape Navigator.

Once the other five per cent is added for the various other independent web browsers, such as Opera or Apple's Safari, estimates show that Internet Explorer has dropped down to only 90 per cent of the market and is continuing to decline.

What is it that has made Firefox, for one, so appealing? Its open-source code means those literate in the computer language Java could fix major problems that affected the program. Mozilla ran a test last year when developers released a bug, or faulty code, into the system. It took a code writer only two hours to fix the bug. Internet Explorer has a private source code, so outsiders cannot do anything to update it.

Firefox has kept up with web browsing innovations, something that Explorer hasn't done since Windows XP came out on the market. Firefox added a search bar near the web address bar, and pages can be loaded into background tabs—there is no need to open up new windows, easing the strain on your computer. Probably the best feature is that it has a completely customizable settings bar where pop-up windows can be blocked.

Will Firefox prove to be a nail in Explorer's coffin? Probably not. Firefox has shown the world where Internet browsing should be, and Microsoft is scrambling to make up for its laziness.

A century of Einstein

Life of physicist, pacifist celebrated at conference March 18 and 19

by Bill Livant and Mike Hagman

In 1931, during the premiere of Charlie Chaplin's *City Lights*, Chaplin and his new friend Albert Einstein entered a jam-packed theatre in Los Angeles. The crowd went wild, giving the pair a standing ovation.

"Why are they applauding so much?" asked Einstein, puzzled. Chaplin replied: "People cheer me because they all understand me, and they cheer you because nobody understands you."

Chaplin, yes, for sure. But Einstein?

The year 2005 marks the 100-year anniversary of Einstein's Theory of Special Relativity. It also marks the 50th anniversary of his death.

To commemorate, Camosun College is playing host to a conference about the scientist this weekend—*The Unknown Einstein: Reassessing the 20th Century's Most Famous Scientist*. Speakers will tackle Einstein's thoughts on racism, God and socialism, as well as the secret files that FBI director J. Edgar Hoover kept about him.

Einstein claimed that "all physical theories . . . ought to lend themselves to so simple a description that even a child could understand." So what was Einstein doing that nobody could understand?

In fact, Einstein saw a problem that others did not. He describes this problem with the concept in "On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies," the paper that changed the course of science.

"If we wish to describe the motion of a material point, we give the values of its co-ordinates as functions of the time. Now we must bear carefully in mind that a mathematical description of this kind has no physical meaning unless we are quite clear as to what we understand by 'time.' We have to take into account that all our judgments in which time plays a part are always judgments of simultaneous events.

"If, for instance, I say, 'That train arrives here at 7 o'clock,' I mean something like this: 'The pointing of the small hand of my watch to 7 and the arrival of the train are simultaneous events.' It might appear possible to overcome all the difficulties attending the definition of 'time' by substituting 'the position of the small hand of my watch' for 'time.' And, in fact, such a definition is satisfactory when we are concerned with defining a time exclusively for the place where the watch is located; but it is no longer satisfactory when we have to connect in time series of events occurring at different places, or—what comes to the same thing—to evaluate the times of events occurring at places distant from the watch."

PROVIDED PHOTO

In 1905 Einstein revolutionized science with his Theory of Special Relativity.

Einstein sees a problem for physics. That's the problem he set out to solve.

But there was also a deepening problem with time for society. The development of production shows the problem historically.

In handicraft production, all the materials and tools are present together, simultaneously, for the worker. In manufacturing, at a later stage, the need for time co-ordination increases.

Under factory production, more and more, everything must be organized as simultaneous events. Otherwise, social production stops.

Einstein took society's problem as a theoretical problem within physics.

He set out to solve the problem so that wherever you are ,in whatever situation, you are able to know where the other people are and are able to co-ordinate your clock with any other clock.

Peter Galison describes the procedure for this. "To talk about time," he wrote in *Einstein's Clocks, Poincaré's Maps*, "about simultaneity at a distance, you have to synchronize your clocks. And if you want to synchronize two clocks, you have to start with one, flash a signal to the other, and adjust for the time that the flash takes to arrive."

Einstein had to find some way for a signal to be sent to another person and know where they are. He chose light. Light has a definite velocity and has been measured since Newton's time with increasing accuracy.

All the equations in the Special Theory of Relativity, and later the General Theory of Relativity, were tools developed in solving this problem in its most general form. Time co-ordination developed as a social problem. It also developed in theoretical physics, the context in which Einstein solved it.

Einstein himself said, "My life is divided between equations and politics." Fred Jerome reveals the other side of Einstein in his book, *The Einstein File: J. Edgar Hoover's Secret War Against the World's Most Famous Scientist*.

A series of radical political stands shaped Einstein's political life as a whole. Dismayed by the rampant nationalism espoused by most of his German colleagues at the outbreak of the First World War, Einstein joined a small group of dissenting voices articulating an international, anti-war position. His anti-war sentiments developed and remained integral to his political outlook throughout his life.

Einstein was a pacifist and had this solution to war: "If only two per cent of those assigned to military service [would refuse to fight]," he said, "governments would be powerless. They would not dare send such a large number of people to jail."

The rise of fascism in the 1930s seriously challenged his pacifist convictions. In 1936, when the Spanish Republican Government came under the attack of General Franco's German- and Italian-backed forces, thousands of volunteers from many countries headed for Spain to fight against fascism.

When the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the U.S. and the Mackenzie Papineau Battalion in Canada were organizing to join the fight, Einstein didn't simply take a position. He actively supported both groups, both financially and by lending his prestigious name to their cause.

Now, almost 70 years later, the Canadian government still does not consider the volunteers of the Mackenzie Papineau Battalion as war veterans. Instead, many of the Spanish volunteers faced harassment and to this day receive no pension for their service. Fighting fascism only became "acceptable" after 1939.

He took radical and unconventional stands against fascism and racism and on the Israeli-Palestinian question. Further, Einstein was a socialist. Einstein's views late in life on the subject of socialism appeared in the debut issue of *Monthly Review*, an independent socialist magazine launched in May 1949.

"This crippling of individuals I consider the worst evil of capitalism," he wrote in his article "Why Socialism?" "I am convinced there is only one way to eliminate these grave evils, namely through the establishment of a socialist economy, accompanied by an educational system which would be oriented towards social goals."

More information about the conference can be found at http://i2.cs.uvic.ca/~einstein

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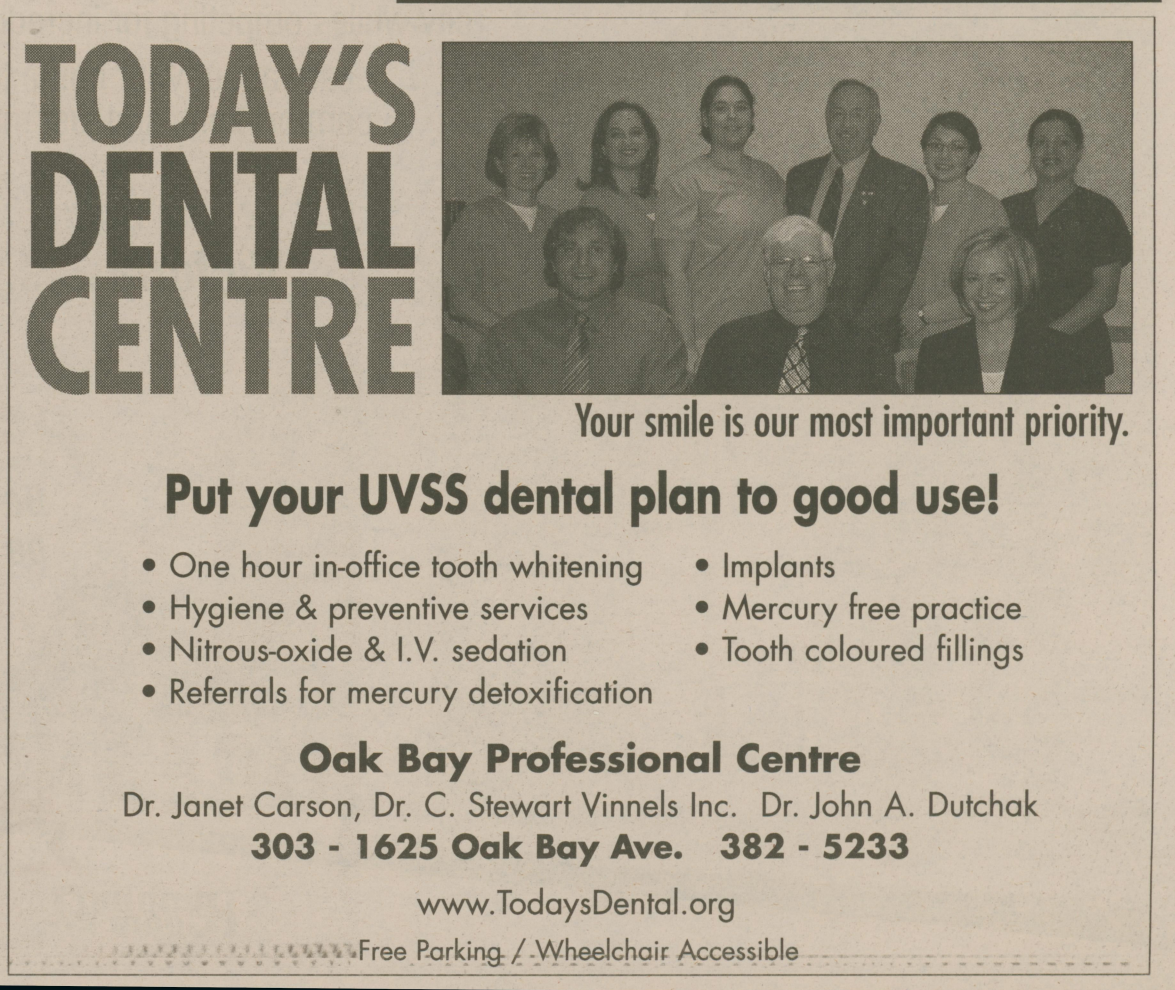
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POLITICAL PROFILE | NDP AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Layton concerned about environment

by David Karp

"We're a country that talks big, but we don't really deliver anymore," proclaimed Jack Layton.

The federal New Democratic Party (NDP) leader visited UVic March 15 to talk with students about the environment.

Layton feels students in particular should be especially concerned about the environment. "You're going to live on this planet a lot longer than some of us who are making the decisions right now," he said, "so you should be and are very concerned about the global future."

He said that youth tend to think more about environmental issues but that seniors vote four times as often as youth.

The leader shared the stage outside the Student Union Building with a rabbit, a fitting accomplice to a speech about the environment. "I've never been on stage with a rabbit before. That's pretty much impossibly cute, I have to say. In Toronto, it would be run over in a nanosecond."

The NDP leader expressed concern that Canada was one of the world's biggest polluters. "Right now we're at the back of the pack—let's move to the front," Layton said.

"Paul Martin is a perpetrator of terminological inexactitudes—otherwise known as he's not telling the truth," said Layton. He criticized the Liberal prime minister for cutting corporate taxes, saying money would better be spent on meeting the Kyoto Accord, providing affordable housing and funding education.

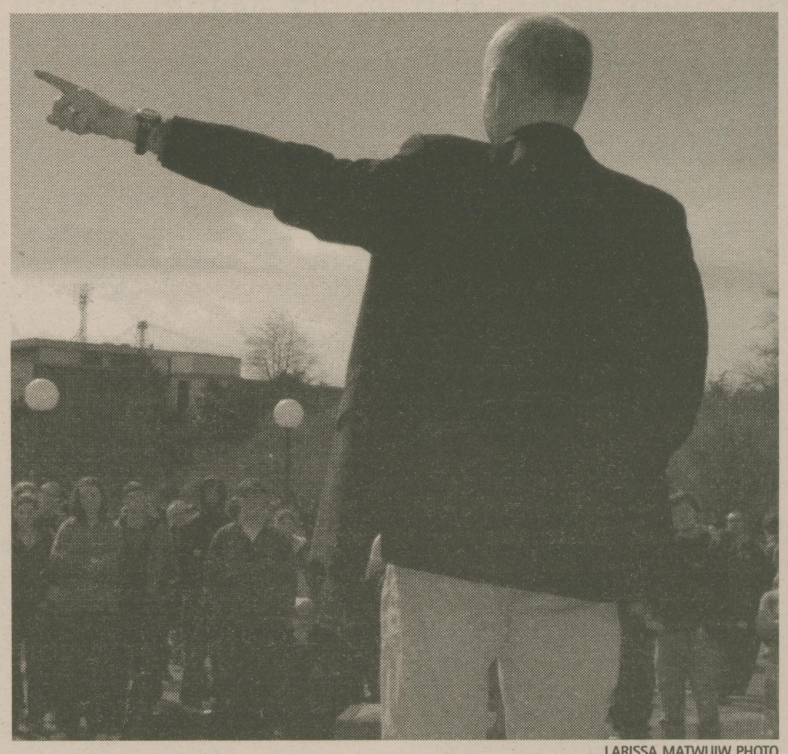
He also criticized the recent federal budget for not giving more funding for education. "They have no plan to make sure that we actually achieve the commitments that we've made to the world and to each other," said Layton, criticizing the government's commitment to the Kyoto Accord.

Layton pointed out that universities develop solutions to environmental problems. "If we're not investing in our colleges and universities, where the minds that are going to find the solutions . . . are being formed, then we're not going to have those solutions."

Layton argued that cleaning up the environment would help the economy. "The United Kingdom has already reduced its emissions by 14 per cent since 1990, and meanwhile, their economy is 33 per cent stronger," he pointed out.

He jokingly conceded that pollution sometimes helps business. "When I was a kid, we didn't have to buy puffers in order to breathe. Now, it's a very common thing," he said. "It's one of those perversities because it's good for the business of the drug companies. They sell a lot more puffers, and they're very expensive. Also, it sends more people to the emergency wards, so it increases our [gross national product]."

As part of the solution, Layton stressed alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar power, saying the NDP has a plan to put solar panels on the roofs of 100,000 buildings in the next five years. "It's easy to do. We've got solar hot water on our roof, and seven bicycles," said Layton as he described his house. The leader added he hopes to have 10,000 wind turbines across Canada in the next five years. He believes it is possible to have all of the nation's energy come from renewable sources.



LARISSA MATWIJIW PHOTO

Federal NDP leader Jack Layton says the party's environmental policies are better than the Green party's.

Layton described a project he developed as a Toronto city councillor, where all 1,000 Toronto schools were made more environmentally friendly. "We paid for it entirely out of the reduced energy bills that resulted from the renovation," boasted Layton. He added that the program generated jobs for construction workers.

Layton wants to expand this program for Canada. "We've called for the biggest renovation project in Canadian history. It will be the biggest project since building the railway."

In British Columbia, ice fields and glaciers are melting, said Layton. He predicts that by 2030, there won't be any glaciers left in the province. The NDP leader supports an oil and gas moratorium for B.C., arguing the likely location for drilling is one of the most seismically unstable in the province.

Layton also described plans to reform the automobile industry, saying he sat down with the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) and Greenpeace to reach an agreement. He advocates forcing auto manufacturers to reduce their cars' pollution each year, saying the NDP introduced such a motion in the House of Commons but the Liberals and Conservatives voted against it.

Layton pointed out that similar laws are currently in place in California. "He just switched from his Hummer to his hybrid Hummer," Layton joked about California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Layton supports the BC Liberal's tax break for people who buy alternative fuel cars, which was included in the recent provincial budget.

The NDP leader is also an advocate for public transit. "The number of hours of transit service in Saanich has dropped by 14 per cent in the last number of years," Layton said, adding Canada is the only G8 country without a national public transit plan, an affordable housing plan and a Kyoto plan. He said that five cents per litre of the gas tax should go towards public transit, instead of the current 1.5 cents. "When you provide affordable transit, people will take it," said Layton.

Layton said his environmental policies are better than the Green party's, adding that his party is endorsed by the Sierra Club and the Suzuki Foundation. "[Federal Green party leader] Jim Harris was working for Brian Mulroney 20 years ago—I was putting up wind turbines." He referred to the Greens as a protest party, saying "people who are serious about change are going to vote NDP."

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GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

"Boy, am I glad Jetsgo is gone. Now I don't have to deal with their terrible service."

LETTERS

The Martlet can't count

Is *the Martlet* run by budding journalists or a crew of the mathematically challenged? One would tend to think the latter after reading the article "Chairperson race too close to call" (March 10). This article has so many errors that it makes you re-think UVic's entry math requirements. Even with the correct election results printed right next to the article, *the Martlet* couldn't get it right. First, they report that the Putting Students First slate was "shut out of any director at large seats," when one glance at the results shows that in fact four were elected.

The article goes on to say that seven Coalition of Independent Students (CIS) directors at large won seats and the remaining two went to independents. This makes nine director at large spots on the Board of Directors, according to *the Martlet*. Funny, in all my years as a director, there have always been 11.

Let's re-check their math. If you add seven CIS candidates, two independents and four PSF candidates, you end up with 13 directors at large elected—two more than normally sit on the Board of Directors. How did this mistake happen?

Either *the Martlet* was at a different election or they're desperately in need of a calculator. Who knew that counting to 11 would be such a challenge? My suggestion to *the Martlet* is that next time, when you run out of fingers, start using your toes.

Joanna Groves
UVSS Chairperson

Partisan agenda at the CFS

So now we know that the Putting Students First (PSF) candidates used the Canadian Federation of Students' (CFS) office to plan their strategies and hold their meetings for the recent UVSS elections. Joanna Groves, the UVSS chairperson, has a key to the room and admits letting the PSF chairperson candidate, Penny-Lane Beames, use the room. Does that mean that when we pay fees to the CFS, we are supporting a partisan agenda? Or worse, does it mean that Ms. Groves, as chair of the Electoral Committee, was actively supporting the PSF slate over the other contenders? After all, she did also admit to meeting with the PSF slate. Because of this cloud of suspicion, I no longer feel that she can represent students, and I think she should do the right thing and resign.

Matthew Lebrun

Bring back my favourite comic

I would just like to say that while your comics are always funny, I am very disappointed that you stopped running "Woman and random object." What the crap is that? It is a very funny strip, and the author deserves a Pulitzer. Don't tell me that the author is too lazy to write it anymore, cause that's bull crap. It's the same frikkin' frame with different random commentary. Come on. Get on it.

Ford Walker

UVic too lazy to vote

I would like to fully agree with Jonny Morris's comments about the poor turnout in the recent UVSS elections. I'd also like to point out the turnout was even worse in the Board of Governors and Senator elections that were done online. He writes that only 13 per cent of students got off their asses to vote, yet only five per cent voted in the online elections, and they didn't even have to leave their seat to do so. The labs at UVic even had pop-ups offering to take you directly to the voting website when you first logged on. It's a shocking result when you consider that 60 per cent of Iraqis recently voted in their election in which they faced the threat of potentially being blown up on the way to the polling station. Again, kudos to those students who did take five minutes to vote.

Andrew Allen

Unpaid work not a 'lifestyle choice'

In the article "Breaking Boundaries" (March 10, *the Martlet*), I was seriously misquoted in the sentence: "women are discriminated against because of lifestyle choices." Using the term "lifestyle choices" trivializes the world's most essential work and is not something I would ever say in this context. Anyone (male or female) who does unpaid care work of any kind (looking after elders, children or family members with illness or disability) faces financial penalty.

World society has not declared that it wants the human species to go extinct; therefore, this work is not a "lifestyle choice." It is work that is essential for society and the economy to function. Historically men have never wanted to do this work and they usually still don't, although there are some exceptions. Men are not all rushing to quit their jobs to stay at home and raise the kids. It is not surprising that women around the world are now on a baby strike causing falling birth rates in all countries except those with high infant mortality rates. Read more on Mothernomics at: http://pacificcoast.net/~swag/Mothernomics.htm

Cindy L'Hirondelle

Editorial

Ballots run out, slates are a joke

The chairperson debate *the Martlet* hosted prior to the UVSS elections didn't show much difference between the two candidates, and neither do the election results.

A measly four votes separated Penny-Lane Beames and Agata Lis in the race for chairperson, with Beames leading (please, no jokes about having a "mandate"). The UVSS board of directors will approve the results next month, given that few (if any) students have made complaints about the election.

Well, we've got two.

Five polling stations ran out of ballots for a brief period on March 11, including the high-traffic McPherson Library, MacLaurin and Clearihue buildings. No one should have left voting for the last minute, but there's no excuse for a lack of ballots.

A deputy electoral officer told a student that the electoral office was printing fewer ballots to keep with an environmental mandate. Hard to believe, given that each voter was handed four sheets of paper—three different ballots and a sheet with the site for online voting for senate and board of governors.

It's impossible to know how many students were turned away, how likely they were to be first-time voters, and if they bothered to find another polling station. Chances are they didn't. Those missing ballots could very well have decided the election, giving Beames a substantial win or putting Lis in the lead.

Students who didn't vote should be kicking themselves—this election shows that each and every vote really does count. The chief electoral officer told *the Martlet* that no complaints have yet been made. Given the level of apathy around student elections, maybe a little drama is what it takes to garner interest. Maybe someone outside the student society will, for once, cause a fuss. To be that person, just email your complaints to election@uvss.uvic.ca.

The second complaint: slates are a joke. Slates are supposed to be a way for students to pool campaign resources; to unite students with common ideals. Instead, they have become nothing more than silly political parties that polarize the board of directors. A motion at last week's board meeting suggested the slates be included on ballots, to make it easier for voters to identify candidates. Get real, people—this would have students voting along party lines, not for individual candidates.

At the same meeting, chairperson Joanna Groves was asked to resign as chair of the electoral board because of her connections with students running on the Putting Students First slate. A letter this week (look to the left) says that she has shown herself unable to represent students. But really, any chairperson will be perceived to be helping others on the slate on which they ran—there's bound to be a link between the chair and candidates. A perceived affiliation with a particular slate lasts well beyond the campaign.

Student politics aren't supposed to be about the "right" and the "left" sides of the board engaging in petty bickering, which is exactly what happened at that meeting. At other universities, the representatives on the student union represent the interests of students—they don't divide themselves between party lines. They fight for students, not against each other. It would be wonderful to see that here.

Editorial topics are decided at weekly editorial meetings and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all staff members.

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Cheap drug, expensive co

WHY THE CURRENT APPROACH TO CRYSTAL ME

by Lindsey Norris
photos provided by Aaron McMillan

Outside the needle exchange on Cormorant Street, a body lies curled up on the pavement under a white sheet. The sign says "open," but the door is locked and it rattles when I try to open it. The figure under the sheet stirs. When a social worker finally opens the door, she says, "Sorry. Maybe you can come back tomorrow—this isn't a good time."

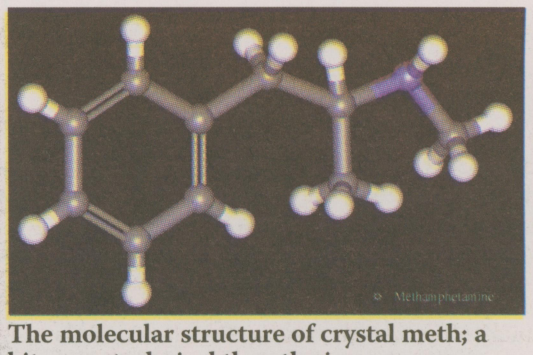
The person on the pavement moves and the sheet falls away from his face, revealing red, raw lesions on his cheeks. Crystal meth users sometimes experience paranoia and the sensation that insects are crawling under their skin, leading to incessant scratching and picking. He looks like he's in his 20s, but he might be younger.

"You could interview him," the social worker says. "But you might have to wait a few hours."

Crystal meth is infamous for its toxic ingredients—it may contain Drano, battery acid and bleach. It can cause psychotic episodes and violent, unpredictable behaviour. Users can swallow, inject, smoke and snort the typically white, odourless powder. Unlike plant-based cocaine and cannabis, crystal meth can be made with a handful of over-the-counter chemicals, a few beakers, Bunsen burners and a bathtub.

Users of crystal meth cross all socio-economic boundaries, but the provincial government considers youth at a high risk of addiction because the drug is cheap and readily available.

Over the last 10 years, crystal meth has become more common in Victoria, and the Youth Empowerment Society (YES), which runs the specialized youth detox program, has seen a greater demand for services. YES has five beds and is the only youth detox centre on Vancouver Island. Currently there are about 18 names on the waitlist, which means some will have to wait up to 40 days for treatment.



The molecular structure of crystal meth; a bit more technical than the images seen when high on the stuff.

At first, crystal meth improves focus and reduces the need to sleep. Users can go to school, study all night and function well, but Chris Goble, the specialized youth detox co-ordinator at YES, estimates that users have about a month and a half before they crash and lose the ability to perform even basic tasks.

Crystal meth is an appetite suppressant, and users can lose between 20 and 30 pounds a month, one of the main reasons why girls use the drug more than boys. Goble estimates that before crystal meth was on the scene, 80 per cent of YES's clients were male, but as the number of crystal meth referrals increased, so did the number of girls. Now about 70 per cent of clients are female.

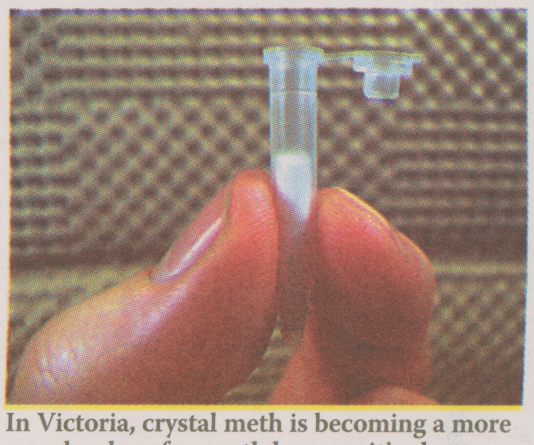
"If you look at young girls, there's huge media pressure, social pressure and peer pressure to look a certain way," says Goble. "Someone says, 'Here, you can take this drug and lose 30 pounds.' I know a lot of adults who would jump at that."

In August 2004, the government of British Columbia released a report called *Crystal Meth and Other Amphetamines: An Integrated BC Strategy* to identify the problems and outline a solution to deal with crystal meth. The report identified five goals: to inform the public, to build safer communities, to identify high-risk populations, to increase the skills of service providers and to reduce harm to individuals.

However, many people who work with crystal meth users feel that more resources are needed to help addicts.

Todd Wellman is head of the Targeted Policing Division of the Victoria Police Department. His division works with street issues such as panhandling, drug trafficking and prostitution.

"Without treatment and education, we're just the big bad cops doing enforcement without the ability to even make a referral and help somebody out in the interview room when they're at rock bottom," he says. "They're still people, and if they were asking for help we'd



In Victoria, crystal meth is becoming a more popular drug for youth because it's cheap, easily accessible and results in weight loss.

onsequences

ETH IS FAILING B.C. YOUTH

love to be able to help them—but where do you send them?"

According to the 2004 annual YES specialized detox report, the number of youth referred to detox programs for crystal meth addiction rose to 61 per cent from 11 per cent between 2000–01 and 2003–04. People referred for heroin use dropped to 5 per cent from 41 during the same period, while cocaine use went to 20 per cent from 19.

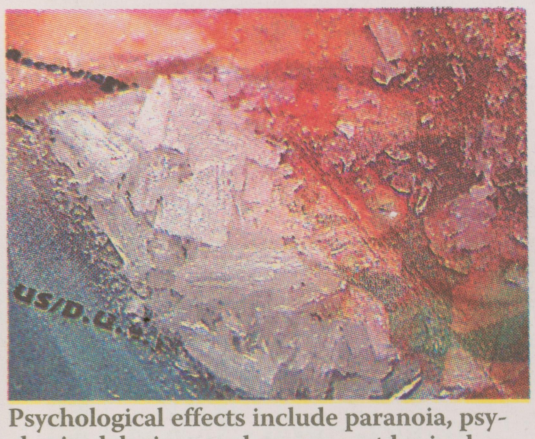
People can become addicted to crystal meth quickly. Because it's so cheap, it's often mixed into cocaine or ecstasy and sold to unknowing customers. The integrated strategy said that 65 per cent of ecstasy sold at raves contains varying amounts of crystal meth.

"It's very rare that a kid starts with heroin. They smoke pot. They drink alcohol. It's kind of a gradual thing and a fairly long process," says Goble. "But I'll get 13-, 14-, 15-year-old girls saying, '[Crystal meth is] the first drug I've ever tried.'"

Acute physical withdrawal—not psychological withdrawal—from heroin and cocaine produces flu-like symptoms and is usually over in five to seven days. Goble says there's a lot of discussion in the medical community about how long it takes to physically withdraw from crystal meth, with estimates between 10 days and two to three weeks. Crystal meth withdrawal typically causes a rapid swing in emotions, from extremely happy to despairing, from calm to irate.

"By day four and five, the analogy I use is their emotions are like a big storm—the waves are really big and really close together," says Goble. "This is almost identical to bipolar disease. They've done damage that makes them much more susceptible to things like schizophrenia."

According to the BC Ministry of Health Services, the number of deaths related to crystal meth rose from two in the year 2000 to six in 2004. While deaths from the drug are relatively



Psychological effects include paranoia, psychosis, delusions and permanent brain damage.

A 14-year-old's dream for the future is not to become a crystal meth addict. But...

rare, psychosis is not.

A person suffering from crystal meth psychosis exhibits symptoms similar to schizophrenia, such as extreme anxiety, paranoia and delusions. Doug McGhee, a Victoria physician, says that MRI scans show that brain activity and anatomy are abnormal in crystal meth users, which correlates to difficulties with language, motor skills and memorization. While scans also show that brain anatomy can return to normal over time, the behaviours can remain, suggesting long-term or permanent brain damage.

"If we look at the long term, 18 months down the road, their scans look better, but they still have problems with language, motor, shifting tasks and abstract thinking," says McGhee.

McGhee also says that users can become sensitive to the drug and quickly become psychotic again even if they have stopped using the drug for an extended period.

"Some people can quit using the drug and use a small amount down the road, and immediately re-experience psychiatric side effects," he says.

Crystal meth can make some people violent. Goble, however, says he has experienced very few problems with violence at YES.

"We've had probably 750 kids referred to us, and I can maybe count five where violence has been an issue. Some of that is the model we're using. We're not in a confrontational role with them," he says. "If they're put in a situation where someone is saying no, they don't necessarily have the ability at that point to function. So you have to use a lot of counselling skills, de-escalation. Which is easy for me to say: I'm not a police officer."

Sgt. Lance Philip from the Targeted Policing Division estimates that last year there were about a dozen cases of people caught carrying or trafficking crystal meth, but this year there are far more. The police have noticed a definite increase in the number of street youth and high school students using the drug.

Current procedure dictates that the police try to contact the parents or guardians of youth high on crystal meth. If the parents can't handle the youth, they're kept in a holding cell until they calm down. If there are repeated offences, the youth may be arrested.

"Think how much time it would save if we were able to get some kid strung out on crystal meth and take him to a resource centre," says Philip, "as opposed to putting him through the court system, where he gets nothing, and arrest him again the next week and the next week."

Wellman agrees. "Right now we're fighting the symptoms. We're battling the addicts and the consequences of their addictions," he says. "And you can't solve anything simply by enforcement."

Police, social workers and the integrated strategy agree that education is paramount. The government has proposed programs in schools and the provision of pamphlets and brochures in needle exchanges, methadone clinics and other community service centres. But they haven't increased funding to withdrawal services.

"There has to be resources out there for people who are considering using it or are addicted to it," says Wellman. "And there just isn't."

Despite the lack of resources, McGhee feels that the community of Victoria has done a good job of bringing attention to the problems of crystal meth.

"We've had dozens of community events about crystal meth. All the media have gotten on it. The street kids are making a magazine called *FLAIL*. There's a video that's been done locally. The minister of mental health and addiction created a document for the province. It's on websites." He concludes, "Yes, we have this problem, but people know about crystal meth."

According to YES, the number of youth who completed their individual withdrawal program rose from 71 per cent to 76 per cent between 2000–01 and 2003–04. Chris Goble believes that completion, even if there is a relapse, is a success because at least they're getting treatment—which is why he feels it's so important that beds are made available to youth who want them.

"No one sets out at 14 to say, 'I want to be a crystal meth addict.' But whether they've become involved in the sex trade or breaking and entering or the justice system, they lose family connections, they lose housing, they lose school and employment," says Goble. "They've lost enough of their soul, and we need to try and help them get it back."

~~Don't do Drugs~~. During World War II, propaganda promoted drug use.

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New radio show features UVic musicians

What: Musicversity on CFUV, hosted by Claire Piech
When: Wednesdays from 10 to 11 p.m.
Where: CFUV, FM 101.9, cfuv.uvic.ca

by Ashley Akins

CFUV 101.9, UVic's radio station, is hosting a new radio show featuring music by UVic students. The first broadcast of Musicversity aired yesterday from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m., showcasing UVic artists Bez Soultani, Gord McGladdery, the Hoochie Girls, and Next to Kin, in a wide range of rock, ska and acoustic guitar.

"It's going to be a great show," says Claire Piech, host and creator of Musicversity. Piech, a third-year student, came up with the idea because there is no other show on CFUV that is solely dedicated to UVic musicians.

"[CFUV] is a UVic station, so it should showcase UVic music," says Piech. "There's tons of talent here, and there's no community or central place to access it."

The sound of Musicversity will range from alternative rock and Bob Dylan-style acoustic guitar to the darker side of hard rock and ska bands such as the Hoochie Girls and One Drop. Piech is also hoping to feature musicians from the UVic music department. Musicversity will present all levels of professionalism, from musicians who played at Felicita's and Battle of the Bands to individuals recording acoustic guitar in front of their computer.

In addition to recorded music, Piech plans to host live guests: up-and-coming UVic musicians who will be interviewed throughout the show, jam in the recording studio, co-host and perform live acts. She just wants to make it "a fun hour of UVic music."

Piech hopes that the show will have plenty of listeners because it is close to home and showcases students.

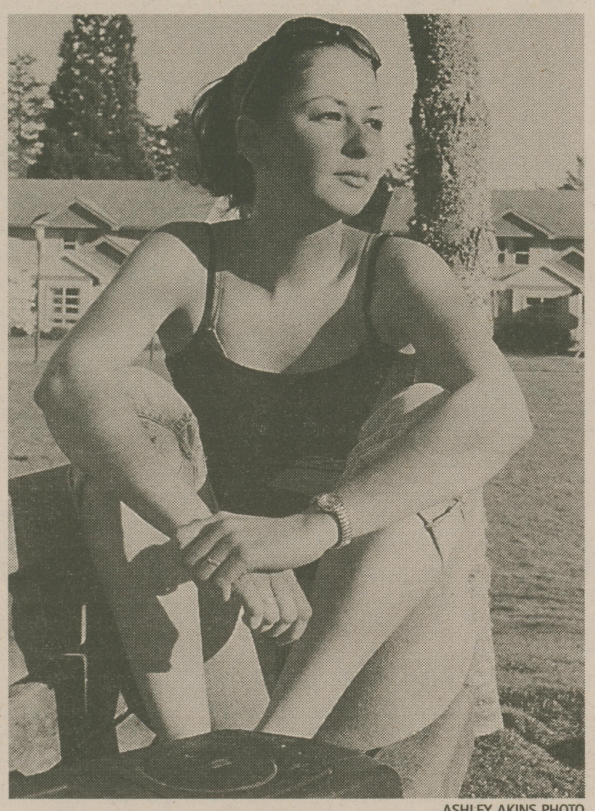
"People are interested in the music that's happening around them," she says.

For Piech, it's right next door in her Cluster 61 block. After hearing her neighbours through the bedroom walls, she realized that this "jamming" was up to par with Top 40 music, yet it never had the chance to be shown off. She wanted to be able to create a place for artists to gain exposure.

"This is the only way a lot of bands can get on the radio," she says. "It's an easier step into the music scene."

By forming Musicversity, Piech intends to increase awareness of the music scene that does, in fact, exist here, though it is not always apparent.

Her next show, on Wednesday, March 16, will showcase guitarists Gord McGladdery and Mitch Vinet in live acoustic performances as well as interviews.



ASHLEY AKINS PHOTO

Claire Piech likes college rock.

"I am stoked about the show," says McGladdery. "I think it's a wicked idea because there are lots of good musicians and this is good recognition for them."

Piech is just as excited. After months of volunteering at CFUV and learning the technical aspects of hosting a radio show, Musicversity has finally aired. As a journalism student, she sees this as a great way to explore a different media outlet.

"I've always been really passionate about music," she says. "I put a lot of time and effort into this, and I can only see it getting bigger."

And in the words of Kurt Cobain, that's what music is. "Entertainment," he said. "The more you put yourself into it, the more of you comes out in it."

Musicversity will air every Wednesday night from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m. on CFUV 101.9 FM. Any bands, musicians, or DJs interested in being showcased can e-mail musicversity@hotmail.com.

Visit Tibet at the Royal BC Museum

What: *Tibet: Mountains and Valleys, Castles and Tents*
Where: Royal BC Museum
When: March 2 to October 10, 2005
How Much: $12.50 General, $8.70 Student

by Angela Andersen

Just beyond the new woolly mammoth display at the Royal BC Museum, bells tinkle gently and colourful Buddhist prayer flags hang in swaths over the entrance to *Tibet: Mountains and Valleys, Castles and Tents*. The exhibit mixes objects for daily use, artifacts from the Tibetan nobility and photographs from early 20th-century expeditions to this mountainous land.

A colourful textile depicting *Amitayus*, Buddha of Infinite Life, is a fitting start to *Mountains and Valleys*. The entrance flap from a ceremonial tent, the *Amitayus* panel reminds us that Buddhism has been the driving force behind the structure of the Tibetan government and the spiritual life of its people since the 11th century. It is also a reminder that what we are about to see are parts taken from a whole, small objects created in a geography of massive rocky peaks and glaciers but transported to a brightly painted room in Canada.

It is not the first time this collection has journeyed outside of Tibet, for it arrives in Victoria from The Newark Museum—as much a study in how museum collections come into being as in the Tibetan artifacts themselves. The Newark photographs come from missionaries and soldiers. Tiny tents dwarfed by the monastery of Phari Dzong were photographed by John Claude White during the British expedition of 1903. The family and patients of Albert Shelton, an American missionary in Tibet between 1904 and 1921, are featured in another set of photographs. It was the Sheltons, initially attempting to finance their missionary work through the sale of Tibetan items, who created the basis of the Newark collection. The 35-millimetre film footage shot by C.S. and Helen Cutting during their visits in 1935 and 1937 is well worth a peek into the theatre area.

A richly woven carpet saddle symbolizes the equestrian heritage of the region, poised between the trading powers of China and India. A teapot, its polished wood and brass fittings radiating the warmth of countless thousands of cups of butter tea, and a diminutive *ga'u*, or reliquary, faced with intricate metalwork patterns, reveal the importance given to the quality of objects in regular use by their owners.

The beautiful silver and jade prayer wheel, a device unique to Tibetan Buddhist practice, and the 13th-century iron, silver and gold tsampa container, used to hold a barley flour foodstuff, are among the objects that would benefit from longer descriptive labels. In addition, the exhibit assumes some prior knowledge of Tibet and its religious history, with a notable lack of information about the basics of Tibetan Buddhism. Both these issues are compensated for through the knowledgeable and enthusiastic docents and the Royal BC Museum's Saturday Evening Speaker's Series.

Renowned Tibetan Buddhist scholar Dr. Robert Thurman will take to the microphone at 8 p.m. on March 19 with his presentation "The Jewel Tree of Tibet."

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The Music battles the industry

British dance rockers struggle with recording and life on the road

by Amber Minnings

With the success of their two albums, a record deal with EMI and a rapid rise to stardom, you'd think the Music would be happy. But you'd be wrong.

"It's bullocks," says guitarist Adam Nutter.

The quartet from Leeds, England, has been touring almost constantly for the past few months. They are unhappy with their latest album and angry at the record company they feel has pushed them in a direction they don't want to go—not the greatest situation for one of Britain's most popular bands.

The group released its self-titled debut in 2002, which earned international recognition, a number four spot on the UK charts and a tour with Coldplay.

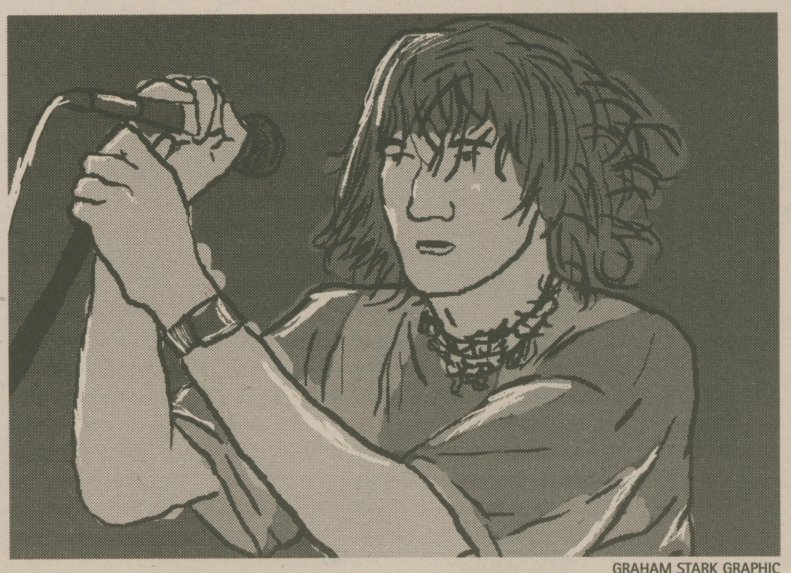
The group consists of Nutter, vocalist Rob Harvey, drummer Phil Jordan and bassist Stuart Coleman. They're all in their early 20s, meaning they were teenagers when their first album was released.

When it came to deciding on a name for the band, there were many ideas floating around, but Nutter said the bandmates were all different people with different ideas about what the band should be called. "It was the first name we could agree on. Simple as that really," says Nutter. Besides, the music itself is what's most important to the band.

The Music's sound is hard to classify. According to Nutter, they're "ambient dance rock." He refuses to say what bands have influenced the group, however, for fear of being "pigeonholed." Each of the band members has been influenced by different people, he points out.

Their second record, *Welcome to the North*, was recorded in two months and released in fall 2004. The band immediately began touring again, which brings us to Nutter's rant in an interview last week.

The band is exhausted, he says. "We've been on the road for months playing the same fucking songs over and over." There's no time to write while on tour. The band arrives at a new venue, sets up, plays the concert and moves on. They played Seattle on March 7, Vancouver on March 8 and Portland on March 9, with a short break between before the next block of shows.



GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

Creating and playing music is the most important thing for the band, says Nutter. "We make music for ourselves, and if other people like it that's great. But we're not doing it for them. We're doing it for us. We make music because we have to. We can't not make music." But on tour there's no time to write and little time to enjoy the experience.

This music-first attitude also explains the band's unhappiness with their latest record. The band was under a lot of pressure, says Nutter. They made compromises and the music suffered because of it. "It's good," says Nutter, "but it could've been a lot better."

"We had just got off touring and had to make another record," he says. With only two months to create the new album, Nutter gets a little annoyed when fans complain that it sounds rushed. "It was rushed," he says. "Fans don't understand what it's like." The record company wanted them to record in America with a particular record producer and to create radio-friendly singles, all of which the band did and now regrets.

But the group has learned from their mistakes. In the future, they won't compromise, Nutter says. After all, "We're always right," he laughs.

"After this tour, that's it. We're going to put our foot down. The record company knows [we are unhappy]. We've told them."

So, what if the label isn't happy with the band's new independence? "That's too bad really," says Nutter.

Despite this conflict, it doesn't sound like the Music will be breaking up. Nutter doesn't deny the possibility if the band doesn't get what they want from the record company, but it sounds like they are planning on a third album. When they return to England, Nutter says he will go straight back into the studio and start writing music. "Last time we had 15 songs to choose from. Next time I don't want 15 songs—I want 50."

Kings of Leon grow up on new disc

Kings Of Leon
Aha Shake Heartbreak
RCA

by Richard McDevitt

For some reason, the Kings of Leon—composed of a Tennessee preacher's three sons and their cousin—is creating more of a fuss with UK audiences. Their 2003 debut, *Youth and Young Manhood*, was equally praised and dismissed by critics, but it was hard to deny that the group was on to something interesting.

They didn't waste time between albums, but they sure managed to do a lot of growing up.

The new album was recorded with Ethan Johns returning as producer. The first single, "The Bucket," is a perfect three-minute pop tune that reflects a few of the lessons and bad habits the band picked up on tour. "King of the Rodeo" is an infectious up-tempo song with lead singer Caleb Followill delivering a chorus that's hardly intelligible. But that's okay—the lyrics don't make sense anyway: "Me and your cold, driving in the snow, let the good times roll."

What's he getting at? Who cares? It's catchy!

The biggest surprise and most welcomed departure from their previous album are two new ballads. "Milk" starts off with an eerie keyboard sound that makes way for a sombre acoustic guitar and then breaks into a gallop as the rest of the band joins in. "Day Old Blues" begins with a gentle acoustic strum and ends with Followill getting as close as one can get to yodelling while still sounding cool.

Aha Shake Heartbreak is an accomplished album from a now fully mature band.

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JO-ANN RICHARDS PHOTO

Dancer Jung-ah Chung performs in Ballet Victoria's *The Legend and the Myth.*

We can dance if we want to

What: Ballet Victoria's *The Legend and the Myth*
Where: Royal Theatre
When: March 28, 2005 @ 8 p.m.
How Much: $22 to $45

by Jane Griffith

What do you get when a member of Men Without Hats composes the musical score, Ballet Victoria performs the choreography and the opening act is one of the best dancers in Canada? *The Legend and the Myth*! Unlike the last two sentences, the performance is no tired joke.

The show begins with a performance by the legendary Evelyn Hart from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. She is the Baryshnikov of Canadian ballet (minus the stint on *Sex and the City*). There are also two dances performed by Ballet Victoria but guest-choreographed by Lynda Raino, the local modern-dance goddess who you might have spotted recently on *Entertainment Tonight.* Another guest choreographer, Geraldine Furrer, created a piece entitled "La Question du Moi." And that's just the beginning of the show.

Victoria audiences will be treated to the world premiere of *Medea Metamorphoses*, performed by Ballet Victoria (BV). Braiding mythology and poetry (from poets as diverse as Audre Lorde, Milton Acorn and e.e. cummings), the show is articulated through opera and dance. *Medea Metamorphoses* is inspired by the Greek myth and play of Medea, an original member of the jilted First Wives' Club who turned to infanticide and a stint as a Pfizer chemist to cope.

"I think people are going to be surprised," explains Colin Doroschuk, music director and resident composer for BV Doroschuk describes the show as a "direct transmission of the sonic, visual [and] kinesthetic." He and BV demand that one criterion be satisfied: "Does the show produce magic?" He considers it his responsibility to "provide a metabolically enhancing experience people can use however they want."

In terms of entertainment, "people have a lot of options these days," says Doroschuk. He promises that *Medea Metamorphoses* will surpass the audience's expectations because the show surpasses much higher standards—his own.

Doroschuk's high standards result from both formal education and experience in music: he was a member of the Grammy-nominated group Men Without Hats (remember the 80s hit "Safety Dance"? Warning: try not to remember the music video). As well, he worked with Pacific Opera and is now working on a graduate degree.

BV is Victoria's first professional dance company. Its mandate is to support Island talent, which is abundant. Traditionally, Island-trained dancers have had to relocate to bigger cities to find work. With the emergence of BV, dancers can now train and later work in the same city.

BV's honorary patron is Karen Kain (another Canadian ballet legend). They debuted with *Peter Pan* in 2003 to sold-out performances and the praises of critics and audiences. Their rendition of *Peter Pan* included classical ballet, hip-hop dance and the Esquimalt First Nations Dancers. *Peter Pan* was so popular, BV will perform it again in Victoria this upcoming Kwanza. All this, and they are only four years old.

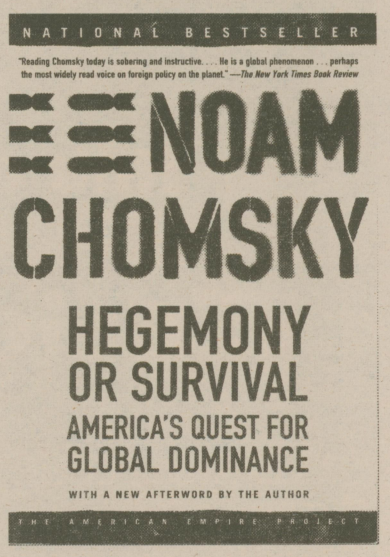
Medea Metamorphoses was choreographed by Jacqueline Sloan, the artistic director for BV She was once a dancer with the National Ballet of Canada. Realizing, however, the narrow box she was forced to fit into, she emitted a Napoleon Dynamite exhale and moved to Victoria. BV is the culmination of her experience as a dancer and her passion for the unique.

This weekend, the world premiere of Ballet Victoria's *Medea Metamorphoses* combines with legendary international talent for *The Legend and the Myth.*

American terrorism

Hegemony or Survival: America's Quest for Global Dominance
By Noam Chomsky
Owl Books

by David Crow


NATIONAL BESTSELLER
"Reading Chomsky today is sobering and instructive. . . . He is a global phenomenon . . . perhaps the most widely read voice on foreign policy on the planet." —The New York Times Book Review
NOAM CHOMSKY
HEGEMONY OR SURVIVAL
AMERICA'S QUEST FOR GLOBAL DOMINANCE
WITH A NEW AFTERWORD BY THE AUTHOR
THE AMERICAN EMPIRE PROJECT

In September 2002, a national security paper of the Bush administration declared "the right to resort to force to eliminate any perceived challenge to [its] global hegemony, which is to be permanent." Chilling stuff, and it perfectly sets the tone for *Hegemony or Survival.*

A straitjacketed media, determined and deliberate strategies for brainwashing the public, a government that is democratic in name alone and aggressive to its core, with a blatant hypocritical disregard for human rights and a repeated flouting of international law: this is the crux of Chomsky's book, and it is utterly convincing in its argument. Where Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11* merely poked a few holes into the airbag of the Bush political rhetoric, *Hegemony* administers the *coup de grâce.*

Dealing in turn with Israel, Cuba, Central America, Sept. 11, the war in Afghanistan and the ongoing farce that is Iraq, Chomsky skilfully paints a picture that reveals the American state as a terrorist organization by the very definitions of terrorism that the American government has proposed. Today's "war on terror" is shown to be simply the same situation of governmental media hype that has existed since the beginning of the Cold War and was perfected during the Reagan administration of the 1980s. Central America was the target then, just as Cuba was the target before and the Middle East is nowadays, but the process is exactly the same.

The American government will do whatever it wants to serve its own business or ideological needs, the public will be manipulated through a tame media and woe betide all who stand in its path. Yes, we have heard that same argument before—in fact, from Chomsky himself in a few of his earlier works—but *Hegemony* puts everything together in a more holistic manner than has been done before, and its arguments are irrefutable.

Guess what? According to the UN, rather than eliminating the group responsible for Sept. 11, "the war in Iraq has actually produced a sharp spike in Al Qaeda recruitment in 30 to 40 countries worldwide." And a number of intelligence reports have shown that one country has now emerged as a global haven for terrorists: Iraq.

This is the sort of information with which *Hegemony* is filled. It's quite readable, it doesn't drown itself in statistics and practically every sentence is astonishing. Certainly, one cannot deny that Chomsky's view is one-sided, but by the final page of his book, the reader is left devoid of counter-arguments and more than a little repulsed by our neighbour to the south.

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ARTIST PROFILE | DARUDE

The best and the rest

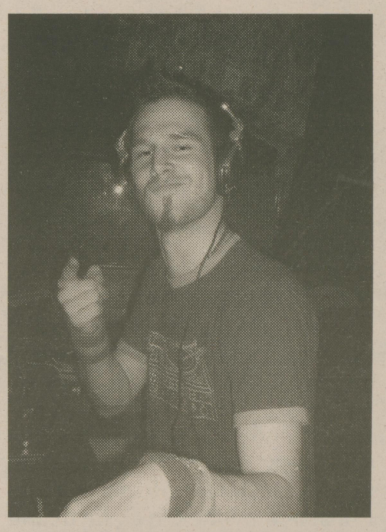
by Amber Mitchell

"People were saying trance was dying, and what we can see now is that that kind of thing never dies . . . it just changes form." Whatever form you ascribe it, the luxuriant music mixed by Darude this week at Deep Nightclub was heard, felt and inhaled by all. Pushing its way beyond the space, bursting from the cracks and filling our sleepy little Market Square, the floorboards shook, the bodies glistened, and I'm sure the margaritas upstairs were inching across the bar.

Darude—born Ville Virtanen and hailing from Turku, Finland—is likely best known here for his breakout 2001 single, "Sandstorm." Two full albums later, he shows no signs of fading and still makes music that defies classification. The movement of his sound from the 2001 release, *Before the Storm*, to the more progressive *Rush* (2003) comes out not as random style jumping, but instead as the movement of an artist eager and competent enough to explore the limits of his genre. Darude himself seems intent to mix up his sounds, keeping the rest of us waiting to see what his newest album, *Label This*, holds in store.

The new record is expected to hit shelves by this summer. "I'm very hopeful to have it out this year, but I was hopeful last year too," says a laughing Darude, relaxing a few hours before Wednesday night's show. His nine-week, six-country DJ tour, work on his own label, OOPS, and a rumoured return in late summer to Seattle's Element nightclub as resident DJ may be enough to grant him an extension.

"There will be a change to *Label This* too. I don't think it will be Top-40 fluffy," he says. "It's gonna be progressive, but I also have some harder edges, some little breaks,



AMBER MITCHELL PHOTOS

Darude, a.k.a. Ville Virtanen

with some slower stuff—not aggressive, like "Serendipity." More progressive house."

"Serendipity," one of Darude's favourite tracks off *Rush*, is a perfect example of the varying modality of which he is capable. "Of course I am a bit biased," he says, 'but when I listen to it, it doesn't get boring, even if it's just the beats in the beginning, it builds really slow." Building in a steady repetitive beat for well over half of the track, the eventual climax is one that the listener has expected but long ago stopped waiting for, content instead with the pleasure inherent in the moment. (Take note, all: there is a lesson here that goes far beyond the music.)

Darude's tour includes Heikki Limatainen, one half of the Finnish Dallas Superstars. Heikki and famed producer JS16 not only work together as Dallas Superstars but also have contributed heavily to the writing, arranging and producing of Darude's albums. The duo have been together for four years as Dallas Superstars and have enjoyed cult following in underground clubs and the Finland scene. Their new single, "Higher," which is due out this summer, has already been requested by the legendary Paul Van Dyke for use in his *Politics of Dancing*. Relatively unknown to most of us here, Heikki nonetheless worked the crowd as a pro, setting us up with his own energetic, uplifting house-trance style (check out some videos at www.dallassuperstars.com).

Darude's evening in the booth showed that his musical strength applies far outside the studio. He spun a mix that ranged from soulful a cappellas—think haunting Dido over long breaks—to mixes with undeniable energy and dance appeal. Dancers on the floor stayed for hours, sustained only by the skills of a DJ who knew when to ease up, giving the crowd a chance to catch their breath before working them into a frenzy time and time again.

"What I like about this venue is the booth is so close to the crowd," he said in anticipation of the evening. "I like the connection. Selecting your tracks and building your sets is one thing that makes a good DJ, but the connection makes the whole difference, I think." Darude finished off his set with an unthinkable yet amazing mix of his classic "Sandstorm" with Pink Floyd's "Another Brick in the Wall Part II," filling the floor with energized bodies in a fitting sendoff.

Darude's night at Deep showed those lucky enough to be in attendance just what makes a "good DJ."

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Experimental sounds shake the fifty fifty

What: New Music Series
When: March 24 @ 8 p.m.
Where: fifty fifty arts collective, 2516 Douglas
How Much: $5

by Charles Yung

CHARLES YUNG PHOTO

The fifty fifty hosts monthly experimental music concerts.

Experimental music at its best is challenging and engaging, pushing expectations and surprising the listener at every turn. It is also something that one normally finds only in cities with larger music scenes. I was therefore pleasantly surprised to discover that experimental music is alive and well here in Victoria, thanks to the New Music Series of concerts being hosted by the fifty fifty arts collective.

An offshoot of an earlier project (quirkily dubbed the "Fernwood Difficult Music Society"), the New Music Series offers a chance for local musicians to showcase their own works and perform the works of other experimental composers. The shows, curated by a different local artist each month, are eclectic and varied. The organizers have also tried to keep a do-it-yourself ethic to the way the shows are produced: musicians and organizers volunteer their time, and the space is provided at cost by the gallery.

Last month I had the chance to catch the show hosted by David Chokroun, a graduate student from the UVic music department. Chokroun offered the audience one of his own compositions, as well as another piece by experimental composer Frederick Rzewski.

Chokroun's piece, titled "MMPI" (after the psychological test of the same name), presented the unusual opportunity to hear what sanity (or insanity) might sound like. In the piece, a speaker read questions from the MMPI out loud, and musicians in the ensemble would improvise responses depending on how they would personally answer the question. A question might be answered by the blaring of brass, the tinkle of an electric keyboard, the plaintive plinking of a lone guitar or all of the above. Half the fun of hearing the piece was watching and listening to see who answered to what, and how forcefully. If you ever wondered whether the average musician is "fascinated by fire" or if they think it is okay to "take advantage of others, if they leave themselves open to it," then this piece has the answers you've been looking for. Plus, Chokroun got to fulfil a lifelong fantasy of conducting while holding a beer in one hand.

The second piece of the evening, called "Coming Together/Attica," was composed in response to the Attica prison riot of 1971, an event Rzewski described as an "atrocity that demanded of every responsible person that had any power to cry out, that [he or she] cry out."

The first part of the piece used spoken word, slow, improvised harmonies and a driving, urgent bass line to translate the claustrophobic experience of daily life in Attica into sound and rhythm. In Rzewski's vision, the piece was also meant to provide a meaningful challenge for the improvisers, since "it is very hard not to get lost [while playing the piece], so that to be free in this situation really requires a struggle."

The second part was a tranquil, almost lullaby-like repetition of a single chord, layered over the cryptic words of an ex-inmate on his release: "Attica is in front of me." The juxtaposition of the two offers a kind of musical riddle: is the piece suggesting that the world is a prison? Or that the memories of Attica are as much a part of the ex-inmate's future as the riots were of his past? The piece contained no easy answers and instead attempted to provoke reaction, and consideration, from the audience.

This month's concert, curated by UVic alumni eldritch Priest, offers a new work of Priest's own composition. He describes "The Plastic Chapparal" as three re-conceptualizations of the same theme in a "lounge-saloon" style, to be performed by a small five-piece ensemble. If you've been looking for a truly alternative music experience, I can offer no better advice than to check out the next New Music Series concert—if you think that you're up to the challenge.

You can find out more about the fifty fifty gallery at: www3.telus.net/public/akollins/fiftyfifty/main.html

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TRAVEL TIPS | JAPAN

Ten things to think about before visiting Japan

by T.L. Holmes

PROVIDED PHOTO

The cloud-mocking view from the top of Mt. Fuji.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Tsurugajo castle was completed in 1593 and rebuilt in 1965.

It wasn't that long ago that I was about to graduate from UVic and wondering how to pay off my student loan. With my degree in applied linguistics, I knew it would be easy to find a job in Japan teaching English—and it was. (Later I found out I could have had a degree in anything.) Ten days after my graduation ceremony I was on my way. I paid off my loan in the first year, and I am still here five years later. For anyone considering going to Japan, here are a few things to ponder before booking that flight:

1. Money

Yes, it's still possible to save a decent amount here. Of course it's not like it was 10 or 15 years ago, but with some effort, you can save $20,000 a year on an average salary. Tax is a mere five per cent across the board, so although your salary won't be that much more than you would be earning as a professional at home, you will be a keeping a lot more of your money.

2. Food

If you think Japanese food is nothing but slabs of raw fish on cold lumps of rice, think again. Japanese food is varied, delicious and almost always healthy—where else can you stop at the nearest 7-11 and pick up a rice triangle wrapped in seaweed and stuffed with salmon for under a dollar? Even at a sushi restaurant, alternative toppings are available—for example, grilled eel (delicious!) and egg (cooked like a crepe). If you go to an *Isakaya* (like a pub), the choices are even more varied: garlic fried eggplant, many kinds of salads, steak and pizza, along with the traditional Japanese fare.

3. Onsen

Try the *onsen* (hot springs)—don't be shy. They are very different in Japan. When you see how thoroughly the Japanese scrub themselves down before getting in (usually lathering up and rinsing off three times), your fears about cleanliness may well be assuaged. There is nothing like sinking into the steaming hot, natural mineral waters for a relaxing soak under the stars.

4. Language

The Japanese will tell you over and over again how difficult it is to learn Japanese. It's true that written Japanese is difficult, but spoken Japanese is not, as far as languages go. Once you get your head around the fact that the verb comes at the end of a sentence, it's not difficult to form simple sentences, and the Japanese are wonderfully encouraging if you show even the slightest interest in learning.

5. Lifestyle

You can live how you want to live. The Japanese are much more curious than judgmental—although you may have to explain over and over again, every time you meet a new group of people, why you don't eat meat, for example. Your new friends will undoubtedly go out of their way to accommodate you (although you may have to explain that fish flakes are meat, too, when they appear on top of the tofu you ordered). If you don't drink, then stick to that—no one will be offended. They may be surprised, but they'll get over it.

6. Culture

Don't be afraid to throw yourself into Japanese culture. Taiko drumming, calligraphy, flower arranging, tea ceremony or any number of martial arts are wonderful ways to meet people and to learn something new and interesting. Most groups, even if they are composed completely of Japanese, welcome foreigners and will do their utmost to make you feel welcome.

7. Shopping

You will soon come to understand why shopping is seen as a perfectly legitimate hobby here—Japan has great stuff. But, there are still certain things that are very hard to come by, even in Tokyo. These include toothpaste with fluoride, antiperspirant that works, sun block that's believable (recently spotted: Sunkiller SPF 90) and home hair colour kits in any shade other than brilliant brass. So stock up before you come or have someone back home that's willing to send you a care package from time to time.

8. Nature

Even in Tokyo, you can get out of the city and into some fairly decent natural surroundings within an hour or so. If you're lucky enough to live in the country, you'll probably be amazed at the gorgeous scenery, sandy beaches and kilometres of hiking trails.

9. Safety

It's true and it's fantastic—Japan may be the safest place you'll ever find yourself. It's wonderfully liberating to be able to walk home by yourself in the wee hours of the morning and not fear for your life.

10. Attitude

First and foremost, it is your attitude that will dictate what kind of experience you have in Japan, like anywhere. With an open mind and a smile on your face, you are sure to have a fun, positive experience. Bring your bad-ass, know-it-all attitude with you, and you're in for a rough ride. Don't blame things on Japan that are not Japan-specific. And realize that you bring yourself with you wherever you go.

If you choose to go to Japan—for whatever reason—you are in for an interesting and enlightening experience that will stick with you for a lifetime.

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Vikes in Rugby World Cup Sevens

by Mike Berry

PROVIDED PHOTO

Mike Danskin, Dave Moonlight and Ed Fairhurst: Vikes players helping Canada win the Cup.

Four Vikes from the men's rugby team headed off to Hong Kong this week to participate in the Rugby World Cup Sevens tournament. They are all veterans of the Canadian national team and are expecting great results.

"[There's] no reason why we can't get to the quarter finals or even the Cup in Hong Kong," said an excited Rick Farrally, Vikes assistant coach and current manager of the Canadian team. *The Martlet* caught him on his cell phone in Shawnigan, where the team was training before leaving last Monday.

"We can't afford to make little mistakes," he said. "We know what we have to do, and everyone is aware of that now."

Mike Danskin (a fourth-year social science major), Ed Fairhurst (a third-year economics major) and David Moonlight (a fourth-year education major), along with Farrally, are the Vikes players who will be going to the tournament.

"[These players] make a big difference when they're playing for the Vikes," said Doug Tate, head coach and former coach of the national team. "[But the World Cup] gives them an opportunity to play against world class players and in front of larger crowds."

All three players have been on the World Cup circuit for a few years and are starters for both teams. Fairhurst is a late replacement for the tournament in Hong Kong, having recently recovered from an injury. He hasn't played on the team in over a year.

Farrally said that Hong Kong is one of the premiere events and that times have been pretty intense as of late, with the Canadian team starting to enjoy a lot more popularity. He said he has never had more requests for tickets, interviews and kids wanting to talk with the players.

"[It's] pretty exciting for me. There is simply nothing like it," he said. "If you can't get cranked up about [this], then you should stay home."

Although Canada started off the 2004–05 season slower than expected, Tate said the team is "peaking at the right time." They recently won the Bowl while participating in a tournament in Los Angeles, finishing ninth out of 16 teams. Tate also mentioned that the team was "very unlucky" not to have beaten Australia and South Africa, both top five teams.

Since the World Cup in Argentina in 2001 when Team Canada came in seventh overall, the Canadian national team has been within the top eight in the world. They were one of eight teams out of 22 to automatically qualify for the tournament in Hong Kong.

"It's a massive commitment by these guys," Farrally said, adding that it was especially challenging for the Vikes players who have to fit time in for school.

The team's schedule is quite strenuous, travelling for 125 days out of the year. And although they visit a lot of exotic cities throughout the world, Farrally said that, for the most part, "the guys are sleeping, eating and training."

The Sevens circuit starts in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in November and ends in Paris, France, in June.

Jugglers look for Olympic recognition

'We still go to festivals where there is no big show just to link up and strengthen that community'

by Erika Van Winden

Over a three-day span last weekend, the Victoria Juggling Festival showed Victorians just how artistically and physically challenging such an underrated sport really is. Kids of all ages showed up to prove that with a little perseverance, anyone could master the basic three-ball juggle.

"Kids can learn to juggle not very long after they can throw and catch a ball consistently," said Mark Weston, president of the UVic Juggling Club. "The physical aspect is as demanding as you make it."

Once the basics have been mastered, the choices of what to throw and how to throw them become unlimited.

Many people associate juggling with clowns, but after watching outstanding juggling performances by professionals, nobody would want to associate the two. The origins of a typical circus clown are vaguely dated, and many jugglers find the stereotypical clown an unjust representation of their sport.

"Juggling has so many aspects to it and so many different types of performers that it is unfair to pick such a specific image. It would be like thinking of all dancers (including ballet, ballroom, salsa, hip hop) as the cheesy tap dancer you saw at the fair," explained Weston.

Another obstacle for jugglers is the lack of media attention. Jugglers are at a disadvantage because it isn't a team sport and there are so few large groups. However, many jugglers describe their festival as huge juggling parties where people share tricks and just hang around watching each other.

"As jugglers go from festival to festival, they see some of the same faces again and again, and you begin to know them. Coming to a juggling festival is greeting old friends and meeting new ones," says UVic juggler Blake Speers.

A good example is how Speers and his old-school friend and juggler Matt Hall meet up at festivals throughout the year. Separated by geographical landmasses, Hall and Speers catch up at festivals and teach each other new tricks.

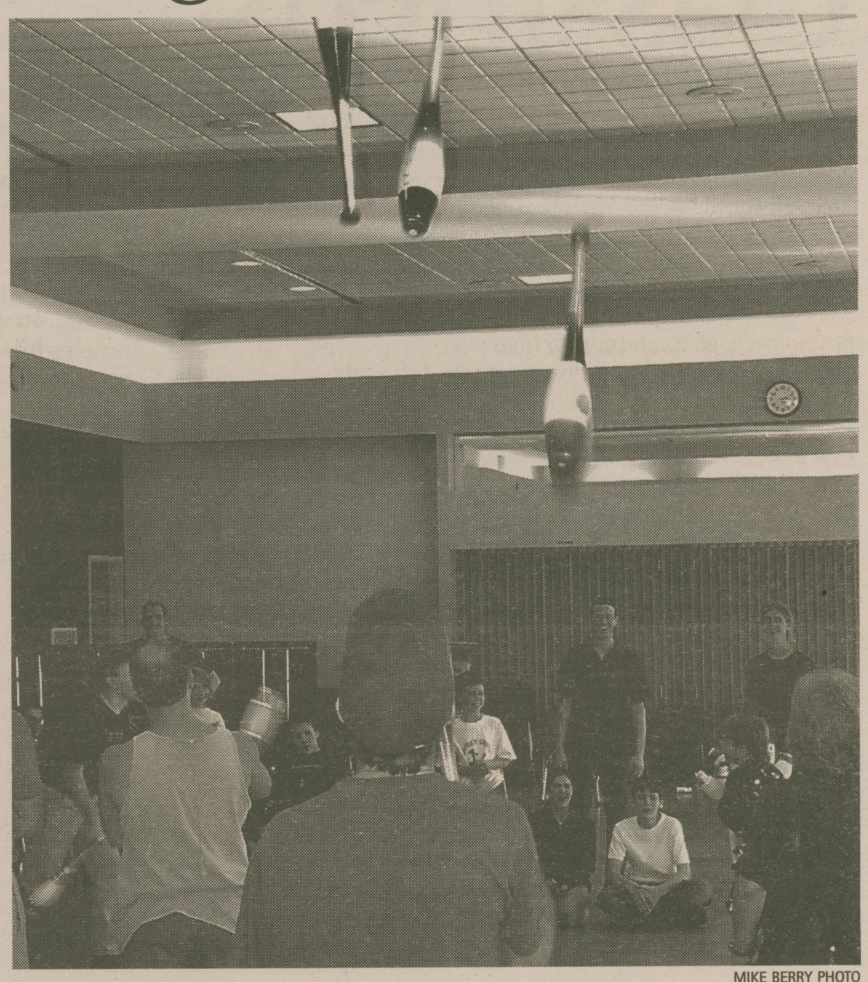
"In fact, we still go to festivals where there is no big show just to link up and strengthen that community," adds Speers.

Although many jugglers see their sport as a great community event, there also exist jugglers who want to see juggling become an Olympic sport. Many jugglers are dedicated to pushing their limits in terms of how many objects they can juggle and for how long.

By reaching for the extremes of their technical skills, jugglers also encompass the strong roots of performance art culture.

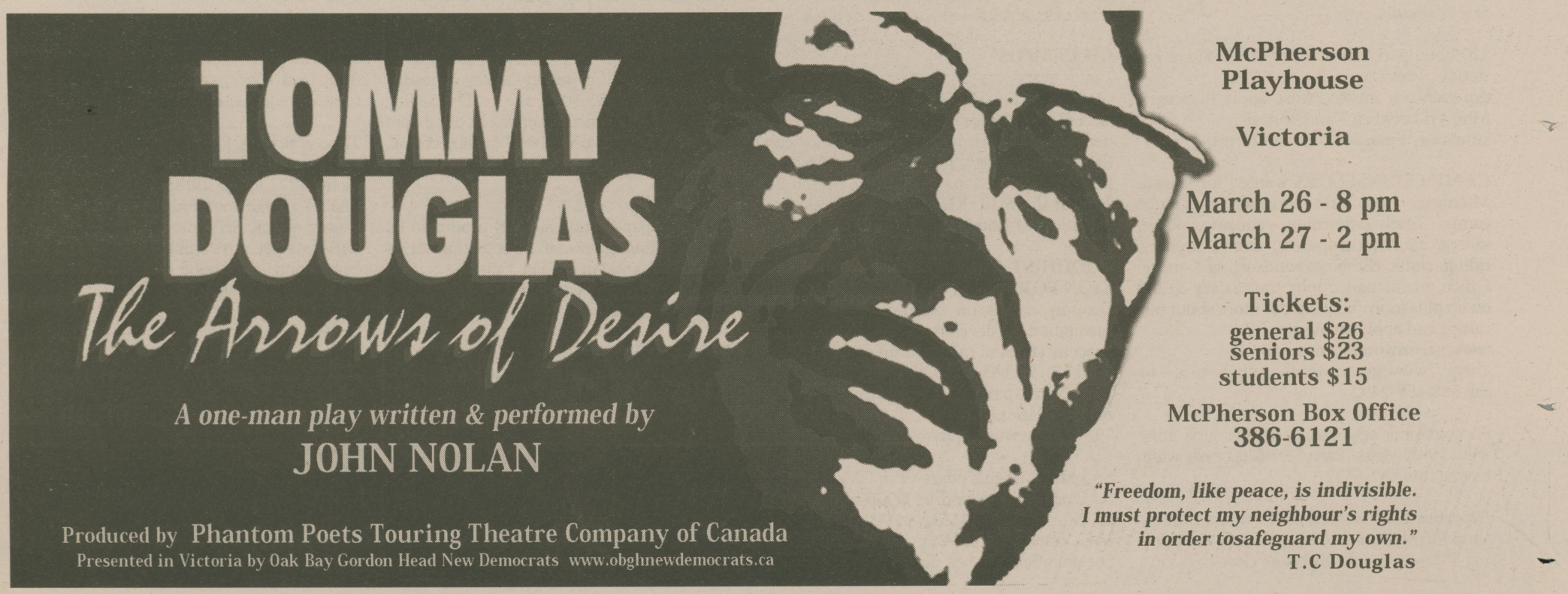
That said, as an art, juggling is heading in many new directions. Jugglers approach their performance with intense creativity and technique, and with this combination of art and method the range of manipulations of even just one ball can reach boundless possibilities.

One tip: it's better to use balls that don't bounce or roll, as they tend to hide under furniture and in the farthest corners. Once you have completed your first "juggle" you'll never look down again.



MIKE BERRY PHOTO

Juggling Festival-goers having a blast in the Michèle Pujol room.



Vikes head to Canadian Interuniversity Championship

by CUP sports editors

With the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) men's basketball championship set to start Thursday, March 17, student newspaper sports editors from across the country collaborated to give a preview of their respective teams.

Carleton Ravens (1)

The top-ranked Carleton Ravens are defending their two-year reign as champions of the CIS tournament. After defeating Ottawa and Brock enroute to their third straight OUA championship, the Ravens' winning streak reached 75 straight games in the OUA/CIS regular and post-season. Head coach Dave Smart leads a team that includes standout players like guard Michael Smart and CIS MVP Osvaldo Jeanty.

Maureen Robinson, The Fulcrum

Concordia Stingers (2)

After a four-year lull, the Concordia Stingers are finally returning to the CIS championship. Although they are the smallest team in the CIS, it's their speed and excellent execution that have earned them their high ranking. The tournament's second seed had a dominant 15–1 season—which ranked second only to Carleton —and went on to win the Quebec title last weekend. Conference MVP Philippe Langlois directs the offence, setting up all-Canadians Patrick Perrotte and Ben Sormonte.

Dan Plouffe, The Link

Brock Badgers (3)

Brock does it well both inside and outside, using the strength of their seniors and a balanced bench attack. Kevin Stienstra, the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) MVP, is a staple down low—the Badgers rely on him for 20-plus points every night, as well as multiple trips to the foul line. Ken Murray, the long-time head coach, has guided the third-ranked team in the nation and hopes to repeat their national championship run of 1991–92.

Rob Terpstra, The Brock Press

St. FX X-Men (4)

The St. Francis Xavier X-Men won their fifth AUS crown in six years—assuring the nationally fourth-ranked team a buy at the CIS Final 10 opening day and a top-six seeding overall. X-Men guard Garry Gallimore is undoubtedly the team's secret weapon with honours like Final Six MVP and AUS defensive player of the year. Other top scorers are guards Zach Russell and forward Neil Macdonald.

Maureen Robinson, The Fulcrum

Alberta Golden Bears (5)

"We're the team that nobody wants to face," said Alberta guard Mike Melnychuk after the Golden Bears won the Canada West banner on March 5. And how true that is. Having upset Calgary and Saskatchewan on the road, stunning Brandon in overtime and then trouncing Victoria in the Canada West championship game, the U of A heads to Halifax as a team that until March 1 hadn't cracked the CIS top ten rankings all season. The dark horse in Halifax this year will be disguised as a Golden Bear.

Chris O'Leary, the Gateway

Victoria Vikes (6)

Hovering around the middle of the pack in the CIS top 10, the Vikes have had an astounding season. They finished second overall within the tough Canada West and first in the Pacific Division. They defeated the UBC Thunderbirds in two straight games to make it into the Canada West finals but lost to Alberta in the gold medal game. The team is led by recently named Canada West Defensive Player of the Year and first line all-star Chris Trumpy and CW Coach of the Year Craig Beaucamp.

Mike Berry, the Martlet

Waterloo Warriors (7)

The Waterloo Warriors are bringing a veteran presence to the CIS championship this year, with seven players on the squad in their final two years of eligibility. With OUA first team all-star Graham Jarman providing a strong backcourt presence, and second team all-stars Dave Munkley and Mike Sovran the strength up front, the Warriors could be the upset in Halifax.

Dan Micak, IMPRINT Publications

Brandon Bobcats (8)

Ranked ninth in the CIS standings, the Brandon Bobcats head to the CIS finals for their second year running. The Bobcats finished with the bronze medal in Canada West, advancing them to the CIS finals, beating Regina 71-66. Top-rated guard Mario Joseph finished the game with an astonishing 31 points. Although they must win four games in four days to claim the championship, the Bobcats hope to make up for last years' disheartening defeat by UNB in the first round of the CIS finals.

Maureen Robinson, The Fulcrum

Ottawa Gee-Gees (9)

They're going in as the number 10 seed and making their first appearance at a national championship since 1993.

Melanie Ho, The Fulcrum

Saint Mary's Huskies (10)

Saint Mary's struggled in an up-and-down campaign that saw them finish the regular season with an 11–9 conference record. An upset victory over the CIS 10th-ranked UCCB Capers qualified them as a wild card entry for the Final 10.

Bill Hughes, The Journal

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Many male children and adults with disabilities are motivated to participate in new activities but are in need of your assistance! By volunteering for only 1-2 hours per week you have the ability to enhance your life and the life of someone else. To get involved or for more information, please call Bryanna at 477-6314.

Canadians for Ethical Treatment of Food Animals are looking for members to take an active part in their organization. Our mission is "a stress-free life and a humane death for food animals." Contact L. Dymond at 388-5165 or littlerockstables@shaw.ca

ON CAMPUS

On March 26, UVic Circle K Volunteers present KIDFEST! This Free event is an entire day dedicated to celebrating youth. Bouncy castles, face painting, games, cake walks and EGG HUNT at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 26, 11-4 in the SUB. Kids of all ages welcome! Questions? Contact Marta: martan@uvic.ca

BUDDHIST TEACHINGS & MEDITATION FOR INNER PEACE
Drop-in classes on Buddhist thought and meditation to develop & maintain positive, peaceful states of mind within our daily life. Weds. 7:15--8:45 p.m. UVic Commons Bldg., Sinclair Rm.(park lot 5) $8/$5, no one turned away for lack of funds. Call Bodhichitta Ctr. 592-7164. www.MeditateinVictoria.org

Be a human rights observer in Chipas, Mexico. Training weekend in Whiterock, March 25-28. call **(604)251-9190** or go to www.vcn.bc.ca/building for more info. Speaking Spanish not necessary.

"Expanding Women's Rights through the International Criminal Court."
FREE Public Lecture, Tuesday, March 22 HSD A240 7 p.m.. Dr. Louise Chappell (SFU, University of Sidney). For more information contact rsgold@uvic.ca

The University of Victoria Student Animal Legal Defense Fund is pleased to announce our hosting of ecofeminist and author Carol J. Adams. She will be presenting her slideshow on The Sexual Politics of Meat, on Sunday, April 3 at 7 p.m. in Room 158 in the Faculty of Law Fraser Building. Her presentation will be followed by a book signing and vegan reception.
For more info go to www.law.uvic.ca/saldf

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE FUN! Capture the Flag. We meet at Market Square Gates on Johnson Street at 2am on Saturday nights/Sunday mornings. Bring nothing but your gusto for the game.

Join the UVic Chess Club
Come and learn to play chess or improve your game. Club meets every Tuesday evening from 6:30-10 in the HSD building room A260. Contact dejamer@hotmail.com for more info. and put "chess" in subject box.

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Room for rent in large beautiful house on Queens Ave. (Fernwood Area). Available: April 1st (or sooner). Call 360-2298 for viewing. This one's worth it!

HEY YOU!

Hey @! You guys better get ready for Paul from the Netherlands, cause he's here on the 30th. Until then, have fun partying bug Nadia to throw another one of her parties.

Time is ticking, just a couple more weeks...I will miss intl. dinners, spamming (hehe..NOT, I can still spam from Germany-YAY!) Karaoke, movie nights, pie-ing,@ CAN cheers, e-mail, Sai's smoothies, etc...But ANNIE-time you guys will be in my heart! I will never forget and hope to see you all again, someday..somewhere..KIMCHI *muuahhhaa*

I think I've lost my marbles.

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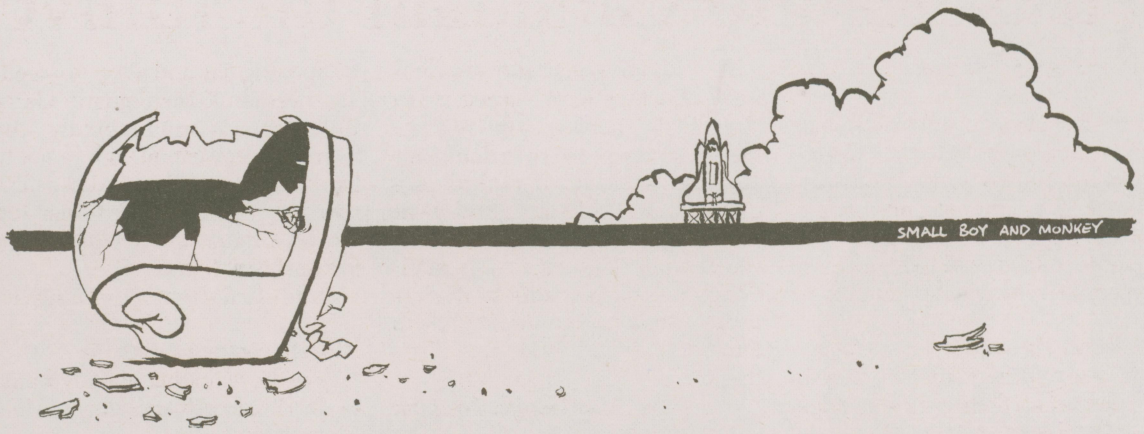
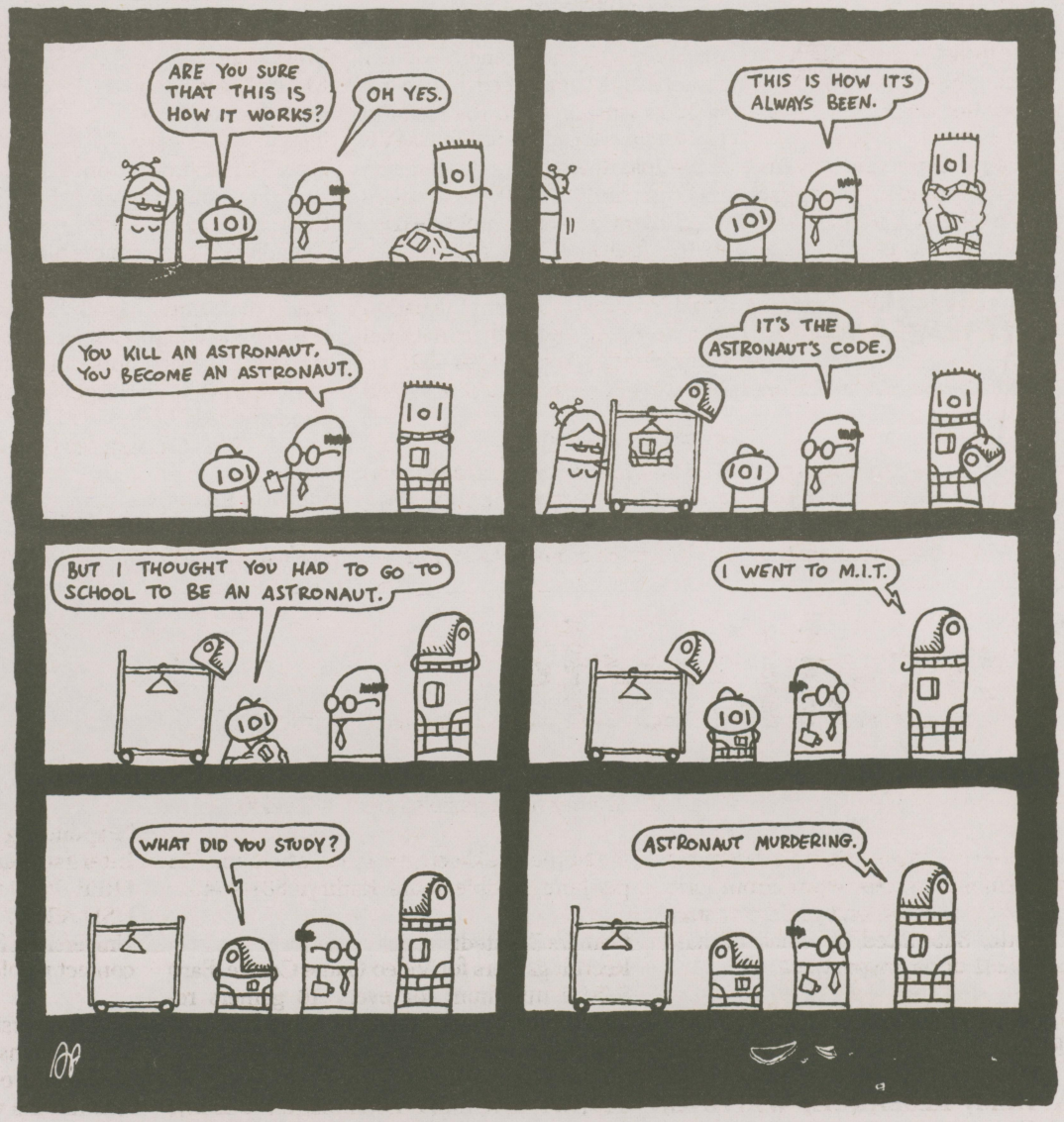
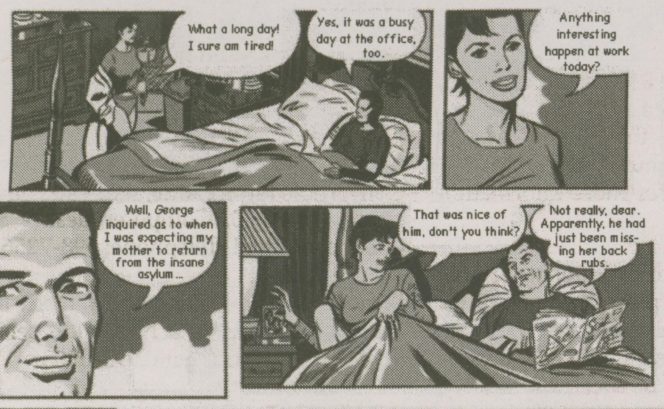
SAM & FUZZY
©2005 BY SAM LOGAN.
PRESENTS: AN EXCERPT FROM
THE BRIEFCASE THAT WANTED TO BE A LAWYER
WE SMOKED 'EM TODAY, CASEY!
DAMN IT, STEVE, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME UP THERE, BADGERING THAT WITNESS!
I KNOW, CASEY. BUT IT'S STILL ILLEGAL FOR A BRIEFCASE TO PRACTICE LAW!
I KNOW I'M NOT MUCH OF A LAWYER ON MY OWN, BUT WITH YOU SECRETLY FEEDING ME LINES IN COURT, WE'RE AN UNSTOPPABLE TEAM!
I GUESS THAT'S THE BEST A BRIEFCASE CAN DO IN A MAN'S WORLD.
GOOD NIGHT, STEVE.
THE NEXT DAY...
I WILL NOW HEAR YOUR OPENING STATEMENT.
YOUR HONOUR, I--
OH NO! WHERE'S MY BRIEFCASE? I MUST HAVE LEFT IT BEHIND SOMEWHERE!
JUDGE
WITNE
BUS STOP
STEVE!
STEVE!
NEW COMICS EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM

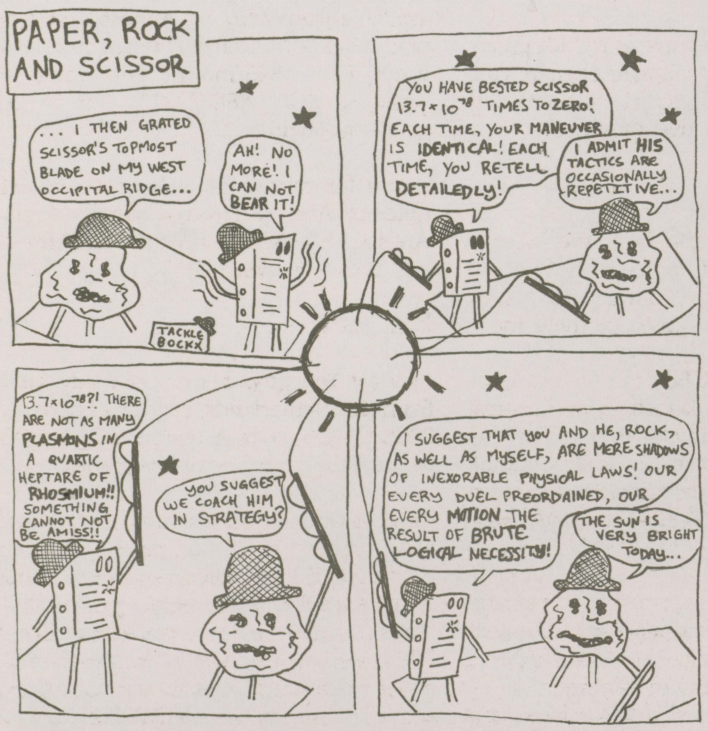



ARE YOU SURE THAT THIS IS HOW IT WORKS?
OH YES.
THIS IS HOW IT'S ALWAYS BEEN.
YOU KILL AN ASTRONAUT, YOU BECOME AN ASTRONAUT.
IT'S THE ASTRONAUT'S CODE.
BUT I THOUGHT YOU HAD TO GO TO SCHOOL TO BE AN ASTRONAUT.
I WENT TO M.I.T.
WHAT DID YOU STUDY?
ASTRONAUT MURDERING.
101

DISCE PATI


What a long day! I sure am tired!
Yes, it was a busy day at the office, too.
Anything interesting happen at work today?
Well, George inquired as to when I was expecting my mother to return from the insane asylum...
That was nice of him, don't you think?
Not really, dear. Apparently, he had just been missing her back rubs.
So at lunch I poured honey down his pants.
...sigh... you can be so juvenile sometimes!
Well.. he was asking for it...
Disrespect to my mother is practically disrespect to my wife.

"oedipus rex morgan"


PAPER, ROCK AND SCISSOR
... I THEN GRATED SCISSOR'S TOPMOST BLADE ON MY WEST OCCIPITAL RIDGE...
AH! NO MORE! I CAN NOT BEAR IT!
TACKLE ROCKX
YOU HAVE BESTED SCISSOR 13.7×10^78 TIMES TO ZERO! EACH TIME, YOUR MANEUVER IS IDENTICAL! EACH TIME, YOU RETELL DETAILEDLY!
I ADMIT HIS TACTICS ARE OCCASIONALLY REPETITIVE...
13.7×10^78?! THERE ARE NOT AS MANY PLASMONS IN A QUARTIC HEPTARE OF RHOSMIUM!! SOMETHING CANNOT NOT BE AMISS!!
YOU SUGGEST WE COACH HIM IN STRATEGY?
I SUGGEST THAT YOU AND HE, ROCK, AS WELL AS MYSELF, ARE MERE SHADOWS OF INEXORABLE PHYSICAL LAWS! OUR EVERY DUEL PREORDAINED, OUR EVERY MOTION THE RESULT OF BRUTE LOGICAL NECESSITY!
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